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Grinevskiy Discusses Upcoming CSCE Talks

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[By TASS correspondents Yuriy Kirilchenko, Vladimir Matyash, Andrey Shitov, and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] New York October 1 TASS—National flags of the 35 countries participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), are flying from tall white masts in front of the Jacob Javits Conference Centre in New York.

The foreign ministers of CSCE countries have gathered to prepare the CSCE summit, scheduled for mid-November in Paris.

Oleg Grinevskiy, ambassador at large, chief Soviet negotiator at the Vienna talks on the reduction of conventional armaments in Europe, told TASS:

"We are trying to create a system of European security that would maintain a balance of military forces from the Atlantic to the Urals, and also in each region, for instance, in central Europe, in European 'rear districts' and in the flanks—in the north and south of Europe.

"Moreover, we are uniting to prevent the concentration of forces in any of these European subregions. This requires regional restrictions and regional division.

"A great deal has been achieved in this respect, all the matters have not been completely settled.

"A gaping emptiness appeared in central Europe with the unification of Germany, its inclusion in NATO and Soviet troop withdrawal from central Europe. In other words, forces tip 2 to 1 in the West's favour. It was necessary to consider the changes in Europe and then discuss a treaty. This has been done.

"I hope that the foreign ministers of CSCE are going to work intensively and will be able to resolve other problems. Gorbachev and President Bush have supported their work, giving cause for optimism."

Kondrashov Assesses Atmosphere for Vienna Talks

PM3009132190 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 5

["Political Observer's Opinion" by Stanislav Kondrashov: "En Route to the Finish"]

[Text] Vienna-Moscow—This week the Pentagon announced that U.S. troops stationed in Europe will be cut by 40,000 men by the end of 1991. The United States has a total of 300,000 ground and air forces on the European continent. This means that the reduction affects 13 percent of officers and men. This is unprecedented in the whole 40-plus years of NATO's existence. But this abrupt turnaround has not attracted much attention or surprise. Although you would think that we in the Soviet Union had long been waiting for it.

Why is this? First, of course, because we are absorbed with our own affairs, floundering around in our deep crisis. If they are going, then good luck to them. And they may be going not back home but to the Persian Gulf, where the threat of military conflict is far more acute than in Europe. Second, for all its historic symbolism, the decision announced by U.S. Defense Secretary Cheney is very, very logical and natural. Moreover, it is already somewhat belated. The figure of 40,000 was part of the mutual mechanism for armed forces and arms cuts begun back in December 1987 by the Washington Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles. People heard this and were amazed that the process was starting, until they got used to it. Later, M.S. Gorbachev announced in his December 1988 speech at the United Nations a unilateral 10-percent cut in Soviet Armed Forces—without, admittedly, stating the total number involved (this was still a secret at the time). The Americans did not know whether to believe the seriousness of Soviet intentions or not, and this was seen initially in the cautious wait-and-see approach adopted by the Bush administration, which replaced the Reagan administration in January 1989.

Nowadays all this is ancient history. The sharpest turnaround and breakthrough occurred in the East European countries at the end of last year. People then started to believe it was serious, if not irreversible just yet. What are 40,000 U.S. troops if the Soviet Union, under pressure from the new Hungarian and Czechoslovak Governments, is pushing ahead with the withdrawal of 125,000 of its own soldiers who had been "temporarily" kept in those countries—for 30 and 20 or so years respectively? What are 40,000 troops when a united Germany makes a commitment to retain just 370,000 soldiers instead of the current 500,000 on the West German side and more than 100,000 on the East German side? That is almost a 50-percent cut.

Thus the arithmetic of confrontation is changing with the changing picture of Europe. It has become banal to note that events are ahead of the negotiating process. The peoples are urging their leaders and diplomats on, making amendments to their agreements. Only this February the USSR and the United States agreed on lowered ceilings for the numbers of their armed forces in Europe outside their national territories—195,000 each plus another 30,000 for the Americans. This Ottawa agreement reflected an idea that has also been overtaken by events. Under new agreements all Soviet troops (around 400,000) are to be withdrawn from German territory by late 1994. If you add Poland—where we will also be starting to withdraw—and, in the very near future, Germany to Hungary and Czechoslovakia, within four years there will not be a single Soviet soldier in Europe outside Soviet borders. It might even happen sooner. After all, the new Germany is not the allied socialist GDR, and the new environment will probably create a growing impetus for withdrawal.

Why then does Washington need 225,000 armed Americans in Europe? The military necessity for it is gradually

receding, and NATO's necessary political links could be ensured by a smaller number of troops. Surely 70,000-80,000 would do? O.A. Grinevskiy, head of the Soviet delegation, recently decided to air this idea at the 23d round of the Vienna talks. However, it was not favorably received by Washington or its representatives in Vienna. They are just as unable to keep up with the development of the situation as we are—something I stated in my first commentary from Vienna ("The Difficult Farewell to Tanks," IZVESTIYA No. 268). And the future—that of the Soviet Union and its policy—does not seem unambiguous to them, given the centrifugal forces building up in our country.

Following the "cold war" stagnation, perestroyka is under way in Europe along East-West lines. And it is proceeding so quickly that it is hard to predict its end results or to make them part of treaty commitments. The problem of ceilings for armed forces personnel in the Warsaw Pact and NATO countries has not yet been discussed at all at the 23d round of talks: We will have to wait for the dust to settle from the changes currently under way. In May 1989 President Bush proposed including this question on the agenda for the talks, yet at the NATO session this July he asked for it to be "excluded." It has now been decided by common consent to move the question of armed forces numbers to Vienna-2—that is, to the new talks which should start soon after the signing of the treaty currently in preparation and deepen it.

Apart from ceilings on personnel, Vienna-2 could also take over other disputes such as the question of naval aviation—U.S. deck-borne aircraft, which Washington does not want to count, and Soviet land-based aircraft, which Moscow is prepared to count only in conjunction with the U.S. deck-borne aircraft. It could take over these issues if it is not possible to resolve them within the now severely limited timetable of Vienna-1: After all, a treaty should be completed within the next few weeks for signing at the Paris summit of the top leaders of the states party to the all-European process. In New York Shevardnadze and Baker are currently clearing up Vienna-1 and transferring all the questions outstanding to Vienna-2. This clearing up process will also continue in the next few days at the meeting of the 35 states' foreign ministers.

I view New York as someone who returned from Vienna a week ago. The information I gathered among the Vienna negotiators could age rapidly in New York as new political solutions and policy breakthroughs occur. In particular, I was told that in the heat of perestroyka that has seized the top echelons of the state administration, Moscow has not always sent instructions to its delegation in Vienna in good time, which has sometimes slowed the talks. Many people said this—both outright and by implication. The "Westerners" have been conjecturing about the new decisionmaking mechanism within the USSR President's staff, which has replaced the Politburo they were used to. Among the Soviet delegation the complaint was that it is sometimes hard to get the necessary official information out of Moscow—on the results of past Shevardnadze-Baker meetings, for instance. Has chaos really come to the skyscraper on Smolenskaya-Sennaya Square [USSR Foreign Ministry building]?

Nonetheless, the main thing is the impression of the speed of events. For me it is strengthened still further when I remember my first encounter with the talks on conventional forces in Europe. That was in February-March 1988. The talks had not yet begun, the mandate for them was then being discussed in Vienna. Then, after Vienna, I visited the headquarters of the Soviet Group of Forces in the GDR and a front-line tank division. Our troops, of course, were not preparing to leave back then. The divisional commander showed me a map. On their side, the deployments of Bundeswehr and NATO units and formations were indicated, while on our side everything was covered in the usual veil of obscurity. A small detail, but a memorable one.

Now that the treaty is almost ready, you can see its scale and uniqueness. Tanks, various types of armored vehicles, artillery systems, combat helicopters, and aircraft are to be cut. Naturally, they will be cut to equal ceilings for the two blocs. But the reduction will be incomparably deeper for the Soviet Union because, unfortunately, we had amassed more deadly paraphernalia than anyone else. A reduction on this scale removes, even at the Vienna-1 stage, the frighteningly offensive aspect of the many years of military confrontation in Europe.

The trailblazer which rehearsed the effectiveness of verification for the first time was the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles. But it affected just two rather than 23 countries (or, rather, 22 countries after the unification of Germany on 3 October). Only around 4,000 missiles and launchers were subject to monitoring and elimination. The Vienna treaty embraces around 120,000 different weapons over 5 million square km of the USSR's European territory and 3 million square km of "their" territory. This is the first time in history that the Soviet Union has opened its borders so extensively. And verification will reach right down from the military district and army headquarters to regiments and battalions. Whereas only a few dozen installations on our territory were to be inspected under the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, now the number to be inspected will be more than 1,500.

However much people may accuse some of our generals of a "siege mentality" in their adherence to old thinking, over the past two to two-and-one-half years glasnost has made giant strides in the military sphere. International treaties now permit things that would previously have been considered high treason. "Attitudes to us are changing for the better. People are starting to believe us. They have become very candid. We are not the only ones making concessions, they are changing their positions too." This assessment means a lot when it comes from someone who participated in the preparations for the

Vienna talks and, ideologically, should be among the most intransigent section of our delegation—Major General V.M. Tatarnikov.

They believe us, but there are still arguments about inspection quotas. The NATO people would like to review up to 35-40 percent of the Soviet installations liable to inspection every year, we are proposing a maximum of 15 percent. Fifteen percent (this represents almost 250 installations) to monitor the initial data before the treaty comes into force, 10 percent in each of the three years when the arms cuts are to take place, another 15 percent for the six months when the levels set by the treaty are to be monitored, and, finally, 10 percent for a subsequent open-ended period—the treaty itself will be of unlimited duration. That represents thousands and thousands of "group-days"—it seems that military inspectors from the NATO countries will become an abiding part of our current pluralistic scenery.

Believe it or not, the reason being advanced by the Soviet delegation for the more modest verification than our partners are insisting on is not residual secrecy, but just plain economics. Inspections are expensive. The more of them there are, the higher the cost—and the bulk of the expense is to be borne by the host country.

Paradoxically, arms cuts are likely to involve additional spending. This will be required immediately, whereas the "peace dividends"—in the form of reduced defense spending and the resultant conversion of the military-industrial complex—will come later. And not to everyone—only to the patient, the intelligent, and the skillful.

Shevardnadze Meets Foreign Officials in New York

Confers With France's Dumas

PM2809130390 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Conversations in New York"]

[Text] New York, 26 Sep—After the UN Security Council session at the foreign minister level, at which a new resolution was adopted on the Persian Gulf crisis, USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze met with French Foreign Minister R. Dumas. The ministers discussed the Persian Gulf situation as it stands at the moment and emphasized the need to make further efforts in the quest for a political settlement.

The discussion of bilateral relations was conducted against the backdrop of preparations for President M.S. Gorbachev's visit to Paris—in particular, the drafting of a major political document that could be signed at the upcoming meeting between the Soviet and French leaders.

Both sides stressed the importance of doing everything necessary to ensure the successful holding of the Paris summit within the CSCE framework at the appointed time.

E.A. Shevardnadze met with President of Cyprus Y. Vasiliou. The president rated highly the Soviet Union's active line on questions of a Cyprus settlement. He expressed the hope that when the current very acute crisis in the Persian Gulf is over, the international community, the United Nations, and its Security Council will be able to get down to tackling the Cyprus issue. It was noted that the experience of settling regional conflicts accumulated in Soviet-U.S. relations should play a positive role.

The mutual desire was expressed to utilize the available potential for Soviet-Cypriot cooperation. The study of the specific features of the Cypriot economy by small and medium Soviet enterprises is a potentially promising area.

E.A. Shevardnadze stressed that a visit to the USSR by the president of Cyprus is on the agenda of Soviet-Cypriot relations. It was agreed that, provisionally, the visit would take place in early 1991.

Talks With Baker 27 Sep

PM2809131190 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talks in New York"]

[Text] United Nations, 27 Sep—The meeting between USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State J. Baker—the latest of the regular working contacts between the leaders of the two countries' foreign policy departments—lasted about three-and-one-half hours. Considerable attention was paid to the situation in the Persian Gulf in the light of the new UN Security Council resolution adopted the day before. There was talk of the need to seek a political way out of the crisis situation created as a result of Iraq's aggression. The ministers also examined other conflict problems of the Near East and the situation in Afghanistan and Angola.

E.A. Shevardnadze and J. Baker analyzed the state of affairs at the Vienna talks on the reduction of conventional arms in Europe and discussed approaches to overcoming the difficulties which still remain in elaborating a treaty. There was an exchange of opinions on a number of aspects of the talks on nuclear and space arms. The ministers proceed from the premise that on both these disarmament salients it is essential to take decisive steps to achieve a breakthrough in the very near future.

Dialogue at the ministerial level will continue. It was agreed that E.A. Shevardnadze and J. Baker will meet again in New York in the next few days.

E.A. Shevardnadze had a meeting with the foreign ministers of the EC member-countries. They discussed the prospects for the development of broad economic cooperation between the USSR and the EC under the conditions of the Soviet Union's transition to a market economy system. Major practical decisions on this score could be taken in the very near future.

The talk which took place was a notable stage in the development of political dialogue between the USSR and the EC. It adopted a joint statement of the USSR and the EC countries in which the sides recorded their united stance on the question of the Persian Gulf crisis and also with regard to the efforts which they will make with a view to settling other conflicts in the Near East region such as the Arab-Israeli and Palestinian problems and the situation in Lebanon.

Italian Foreign Minister G. de Michelis; Luxembourg Foreign Minister J. Poos; Dutch Foreign Minister H. van den Broek; Portuguese Foreign Minister J. de Deus Pinheiro; British Foreign Secretary D. Hurd; Belgian Foreign Minister M. Eyskens; Danish Foreign Minister U. Ellemann-Jensen; FRG Foreign Minister H.-D. Genscher; Greek Foreign Minister A. Samaras; Spanish Foreign Minister F. Fernandez-Ordonez; French Foreign Minister R. Dumas; Irish Foreign Minister G. Collins; and F. Andriyessen [name as transliterated], deputy chairman of the EC Commission, took part in the meeting.

E.A. Shevardnadze had a talk with Afghan Foreign Minister A. Wakil. Having compared their assessments of the development of the situation around Afghanistan, the ministers noted that recent tendencies on both the regional and the broad international plane as a whole favor the Afghan leadership's efforts to implement a policy of national reconciliation. The situation within and around the country is no longer quite what it was a year or two ago.

E.A. Shevardnadze described the Soviet Union's recent diplomatic contacts with the United States on the Afghan problem, in particular the nature of the discussion of the question at his meeting with J. Baker that day. A. Wakil assessed highly the line of Soviet diplomacy in dialogue with the United States on Afghanistan. The mutual opinion was voiced that the constructive contribution of Soviet-U.S. collaboration to the settlement of other regional problems could extend to the search for a solution in Afghanistan. That is precisely what the Afghan people and entire international community expect, A. Wakil said.

Meets With Baker Second Time

LD2809142190 Moscow TASS in English 1345 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] New York September 28 (TASS)—The meeting between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker here, the second in as many days, was devoted almost wholly to the quest or solutions to problems at the talks on reducing conventional forces in Europe. The two ministers succeeded in making significant progress in several directions. Contacts between them will continue.

Shevardnadze also conferred with Canadian Foreign Minister Charles Joseph Clark. During the discussion of the problems of the Asia-Pacific region, it was noted that increased interest was being shown there in the discussion of regional security problems and other issues calling for joint actions.

The initiatives by the Soviet Union and Canada on this score are becoming more relevant. As Clark observed, a more favourable atmosphere was now being formed for the Soviet Union's participation in the work of economic and other regional organisations in the Asia-Pacific region.

The two politicians discussed opportunities for economic cooperation between the Soviet Union and Western countries. Clark thinks that there is a still greater readiness for this in the West now than was observed at the Houston summit of seven leading industrialised countries. That meeting is known to have made fundamental decisions to support economic transformations in the USSR.

In discussing the situation in the Gulf, the ministers pointed out the need to give Iraq time to evaluate the situation after the adoption by the U.N. Security Council of resolutions on further sanctions.

It was agreed that the Soviet-Canadian dialogue would be continued during Clark's visit to Moscow in mid-November.

The talks between Shevardnadze and Mexican Foreign Minister Fernando Solana focused on the development of the global political and economic situation, especially in terms of its influence on problems faced by Latin America.

The sides reaffirmed their intention to develop Soviet-Mexican cooperation. Solana's talks in Moscow, scheduled for February 1991, will be devoted to preparations for the Mexican president's visit to the USSR.

The ministers emphasised the great symbolic importance of the centenary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, to be observed in December.

The Gulf crisis was the main item of discussion at a meeting between Shevardnadze and Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim. They expressed similar views on the development of the situation and the desire to prevent an escalation of tension.

Shevardnadze underlined the important role Arab countries are called upon to play in defusing the conflict, the need for them to pool efforts, to coordinate actions and actively join measures taken by the international community. The ministers agreed to carry on interaction in the quest for a political settlement.

Shevardnadze also met Mali Foreign Minister Ngolo Traore. They discussed the situation in Western Africa. The talk also focused on the state of and prospects for Soviet-Malian cooperation in a variety of areas.

Shevardnadze attended a working meeting of the foreign ministers of the Asia-Pacific countries. At the meeting, a free exchange of views was held on urgent issues of security and cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region and prospects for the development of the situation in that area in light of the sweeping positive changes in present-day international relations.

The meeting put emphasis on the discussion of ways to settle the still unresolved regional conflicts and the need to boost multilateral cooperation.

Shevardnadze confirmed the Soviet Union's commitment to the Vladivostok-Krasnoyarsk programme to improve the situation in the Asia-Pacific region and called attention to a host of recent Soviet proposals building on dialogue and cooperation in that region.

Makes Progress on CFE

PM2809183590 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by correspondent A. Shalnev: "USSR-United States: Substantial Progress Made"]

[Text] New York—"Tell me," I asked the high-ranking State Department staffer, "to what extent do you take into account the reports from Moscow? Do these reports influence your position at the current meetings with the Soviet foreign minister and his delegation?"

"We are not in the habit of paying particular attention to rumors. For a year now we have been hearing that Ryzhkov is going to resign. We have also heard a great many times that Gorbachev also is going to go."

"Did the question of these reports arise in any form during Baker's meetings with Shevardnadze?"

"No."

"What about the meetings between the Soviet and U.S. experts who are now accompanying Shevardnadze and Baker?"

"Experts do not discuss such questions at all."

My enquiry to the State Department, which now, during the first days of the UN General Assembly session, has effectively decamped from Washington to New York, was no accident. In recent days U.S. newspapers have been full of articles which, citing all kinds of sources in Moscow and other cities, express suppositions about the likelihood of an abrupt turn of events in the Soviet Union.

But neither the speculation nor the suppositions were discussed at the meetings between the Soviet and U.S. ministers and their advisers. The discussion was about something else. On Thursday, Shevardnadze and Baker almost exclusively discussed problems of reducing conventional forces and armaments in Europe.

There are new developments. Substantial progress has been made on two of the three key problems. As a high-ranking representative of the Soviet delegation put it in conversation with me, "We have managed not to cut but to untie the Gordian knot and to make a breakthrough on the road to Paris." As is well known, it is proposed to sign the treaty on conventional types of arms in Paris in mid-November.

One of these problems is the "sufficiency problem." The point at issue is what should be the level of arms for NATO and the Warsaw Pact in the categories of tanks, armored vehicles, helicopters, and artillery and what should be the level of arms in the same categories for each individual country. Crudely speaking, this means that, say, the USSR does not have the right to have more than 30 or maybe 40 percent of the total number of tanks or helicopters permitted in the geographical area from the Atlantic to the Urals. It is these levels that have to be agreed.

On Thursday, after almost 24 hours' debate at the expert level, the USSR foreign minister and the U.S. secretary of state at last reached an understanding and thus solved a problem without which it would be impossible to hope for the conclusion of the treaty as a whole. For the moment both our side and the Americans prefer not to mention specific figures relating to the agreed levels.

The second agreed problem is the "zones problem." As the high-ranking Soviet representative told me, an understanding has been reached on a "regional division in Europe, an understanding which would preclude the possibility of dangerous concentrations of arms in one region and would ensure a balance of forces in each separate subregion of Europe." I will not go into detail—that is a matter for experts. I will merely say that the "zones problem" ranks second in importance after the "sufficiency problem."

The third problem—the aircraft problem—has not yet been solved, although I was told that there has been some progress. But something else was also made clear: If no accord is reached, the agreement as a whole that is due to be signed in Paris will not be jeopardized. The agreement can be concluded, I was told, on the understanding that the sides will return to the topic of aircraft at the next talks, during the second phase of the process of reducing forces and armaments in Europe.

Admittedly, no one is ruling out the possibility that a solution will also be found right here in New York so far as aircraft are concerned—primarily ground-based naval aviation.

Meets Baker, Jordanian Prince

LD2909062790 Moscow TASS in English 0613 GMT 29 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondents Nikolay Maslov, Yevgeniy Menkes, and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] United Nations September 29 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker met Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan in New York on Friday. The talk focused on the entire range of problems arising from the crisis situation in the Gulf area.

The parties emphasised the important role the Arab factor may have to play in settling the conflict and in establishing peace, security and tranquility in the region.

Establishes Ties With Bahrain

LD2809215190 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] The USSR and Bahrain have decided to establish diplomatic relations at ambassador level. The decision comes in a joint communique adopted at Friday's [28 September] meeting between the Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and his Bahrain counterpart, Muhammad Ibn-Mubarak al Khalifah. The USSR and Bahrain believe, the document says, that the agreement they have reached meets the goal of promoting international cooperation and strengthening peace, regional, and universal security.

Meets Nicaragua's Chamorro

LD2909082390 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0655 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] New York, 29 Sep (TASS)—E.A. Shevardnadze, the USSR foreign minister, has had a meeting with President V. Chamorro of Nicaragua. Welcoming the Soviet minister, V. Chamorro declared her intention of not only maintaining but also, where possible, strengthening friendly relations between Nicaragua and the

USSR. This accords with the ideas of the Soviet side that the traditions of many years' standing of good relations between the Soviet and Nicaraguan peoples are a fine basis for the future.

V. Chamorro spoke of the main directions of her government's policy—peace, democracy, and development. In an interpretation of interstate relations in Central America such an approach, E.A. Shevardnadze noted, links up with the idea of the applicability to this region of the concept of defense sufficiency which was at one time put forward by the Soviet Union.

During the discussion of specific aspects of bilateral relations the Nicaraguan side stressed that it is not renouncing its debts, intends to pay them, and wishes to base its affairs not on aid but on the development of commercial links, although at the present time the country's economic situation remains most complex. An accord was reached on carrying out a joint analysis of bilateral problems in the context of preparations for an official visit to the USSR by President Chamorro in February 1991.

The conversation took place in an unconstrained and amicable atmosphere.

Meets With Perez De Cuellar

LD2909120490 Moscow TASS in English 1142 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] New York September 29 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze took part in a meeting between the foreign ministers of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar. The meeting focused on a wide range of regional problems.

Upon the conclusion of the meeting, the ministers adopted a statement welcoming recent successes on Namibian and Cambodian issues and progress in settling conflicts in Central America, Western Sahara and Afghanistan.

The ministers confirmed their principled position regarding Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and expressed determination to maintain a dynamic negotiating process on other Middle East problems.

A tripartite meeting was held between Shevardnadze, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan. The discussion centered on using the Arab factor in settling the Gulf crisis.

Shevardnadze met Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama. Nakayama spoke highly of the results of Shevardnadze's recent visit to Japan, which allow the two countries to speak about the beginning of a new stage in bilateral relations, the potential of which is very high. Both sides attach immense importance in this context to President Mikhail Gorbachev's forthcoming visit to Tokyo.

The ministers concretised a programme to prepare for the Soviet-Japanese summit. They said work in the group focusing on a non-aggression treaty, where the difficult question of the four islands of the South Kuril chain is not ironed out, would be continued. New full-scale talks between the Soviet and Japanese foreign ministers will be held in December in Moscow.

Shevardnadze met Turkish Foreign Minister Ali Bozer. They analysed the situation in the Gulf from the point of view of the efficiency of the adopted U.N. Security Council resolutions and steps that could still be taken to ensure a peaceful solution of the crisis, without bringing matters to the use of force.

The ministers described the state of bilateral Soviet-Turkish relations as causing deep satisfaction. Bozer believes that they can even be considered as ideal. The Turkish president's visit to the USSR early in 1991 will give a fresh impetus to the development of ties between the two countries.

The ministers expressed some ideas concerning preparations for and adding new substance to the forthcoming Soviet-Turkish summit.

At their New York meeting, Shevardnadze and Bahrain Foreign Minister Muhammad ibn-Mubarak Hamad Al Khalifah reached an agreement to establish diplomatic relations on September 28, 1990 and exchange diplomatic representatives at ambasador level.

They adopted a joint communique expressing confidence that relations between the two countries will be built on the principles of peaceful co-existence, equality, mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference in each other's internal affairs and in line with the U.N. charter.

The Soviet Union and Bahrain consider that the agreement reached by them is consistent with the goals of developing international cooperation, strengthening peace, regional and global security.

Talks With Bulgarian President

LD3009112990 Moscow TASS in English 1037 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] New York September 30 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has had a conversation here with President Zhelev of Bulgaria.

On behalf of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, he congratulated Zhelev on being elected to this high post and wished him success.

The Soviet Union and Bulgaria have chosen the right path—that of democratisation, and we should follow this path, developing those positive factors that exist in Soviet-Bulgarian relations and removing obstacles on the way of our advance, Shevardnadze stressed. The

president pointed to the significance of Soviet perestroyka for the development of rejuvenation processes in Bulgaria and other East European countries.

They discussed political and socio-economic transformations in the USSR and Bulgaria and pointed to the difficulties brought about by the development of new forms of economic relations between the two countries.

Shevardnadze and Zhelev supported the activisation of contacts and consultations.

Shevardnadze also met with President Carlos Andres Perez of Venezuela.

Perez praised the Soviet Union's foreign policy and the course followed by it at the United Nations Organisation, which in the present complicated conditions promote the formation of new international realities.

The Gulf crisis was analysed by the two sides mostly from the point of view of its impact on the oil market. It was pointed out that the procrastination of the crisis, and especially a military confrontation would effect negatively, first, the consumers and, second, the producers of oil, which would seriously destabilise the whole of the world economy. Shevardnadze and Perez also discussed the situation in Central America and the Caribbean basin.

Meets Iraqi, Chilean Ministers

LD3009144190 Moscow TASS in English 1336 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] New York September 30 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met here with his Iranian counterpart 'Ali 'Akbar Velayati. They expressed mutual satisfaction with the present state of Soviet-Iranian relations, based on the principles of good neighbourliness, equality and mutual benefit, which have advanced a great deal of late. Both sides intend to develop them actively in various spheres.

The discussion of the situation in the Gulf revealed the identity of assessments. Both sides believe that the action taken by Iraq can be described as an unacceptable and illegal occupation and annexation of a sovereign state. Shevardnadze and Velayati also discussed ways of settling the situation on a regional basis. It was pointed out that after the crisis is over there should be no military presence in the region. In this connection they stressed the importance of the statement made by the U.S. President in Helsinki, who said that after Iraqi troops are withdrawn from Kuwait the U.S. troops would leave the Gulf.

The ministers stressed the similarity of their stands on the settlement of the situation in Afghanistan. The time has come to put an end to the instability in that country. They agreed to hold working consultations on this issue.

The Soviet and Iranian foreign ministers will maintain close regular contacts.

Shevardnadze's conversation with Chilean Foreign Minister Enrique Silva, the first one on this level in the past 17 years, was of much symbolic importance, the two sides believe. Shevardnadze pointed out that Soviet-Chilean relations were of long standing, with a number of rather emotional episodes in them. This is a good basis for progress after the recent restoration of diplomatic relations.

Shevardnadze and Silva discussed difficult ways of development and tasks facing their countries on the present stage.

At the request of Silva, Shevardnadze analysed the developments in the Gulf.

The Soviet foreign minister invited Silva to visit the Soviet Union. The invitation was accepted with gratitude.

During Shevardnadze's meeting with Thai Foreign Minister Subin Pinkayan they pointed out with satisfaction that much progress had been achieved recently in Cambodian settlement, mostly thanks to the work carried out by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

The Thai foreign minister supported Security Council's resolution on the Gulf and a resolute stand assumed by the Soviet Union on this issue.

Shevardnadze spoke in favour of a broad dialogue in various forms between countries of the Asia-Pacific region on problems that require collective attention. Subin Pinkayan said that Thailand welcomes the Soviet Union's active role in the region and approved in this connection the Soviet initiative on holding a meeting of foreign ministers of Asian and Pacific countries in Vladivostok in 1993.

During a conversation between Shevardnadze and his Zimbabwean counterpart Nathan Shamuyarira their attention was focused on the situation in southern Africa. They welcomed the beginning of a dialogue in South Africa. They welcomed the beginning of a dialogue in South Africa and expressed readiness for promoting this process. Shamuyarira stressed the significance of the Soviet-American dialogue for the settlement of problems of southern Africa.

The two ministers expressed a similar attitude to the Gulf crisis and to the importance of the leading role of the United Nations organisation in the efforts to overcome it.

Shevardnadze also met with Oman Foreign Minister Yusuf al-'Alawi. They stressed the importance of the Arab factor in settling the gulf conflict.

They expressed satisfaction with the present state of relations between the two countries and pointed to the existence of additional opportunities for their further development.

Discusses Gulf With Velayati

LD2909224890 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2133 GMT 29 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondents Mikhail Kochetkov, Nikolay Maslov, Yevgeniy Menkes, and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] UN, 30 Sep, (TASS)—A meeting was held in New York today between USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali 'Akbar Velayati. The ministers expressed in their conversation profound mutual satisfaction at the present state of Soviet-Iranian relations. These relations are based upon principles of good-neighborliness, equal rights, and mutual advantage. They have come a great distance in a short time, and both sides are set to develop them vigorously in the most varied spheres.

The ministers gave great attention to examining the situation in the Persian Gulf. The discussion of the problem revealed their coinciding assessments of the action undertaken by Iraq with regard to the sovereign state of Kuwait as unacceptable and illegal. The possibility of solving the crisis on a regional basis was examined. At the same time, it was noted that once the crisis is over, the foreign military presence in the region should not be maintained. The ministers stressed in this regard the importance of the statement made by the U.S. President in Helsinki to the effect that U.S. troops would leave the Persian Gulf area once Iraq left Kuwait.

Eduard Shevardnadze and 'Ali 'Akbar Velayati noted the proximity of positions on an internal Afghan settlement. They noted that the time had come to put an end to instability in that country and agreed to hold working consultations on this problem.

It was also decided that the ministers of foreign affairs of the two countries would maintain close and regular contacts.

Congratulates Yemen on Unity

LD3009155290 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1436 GMT 30 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondents Nikolay Maslov, Yevgeniy Menkes, and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] United Nations, 30 Sep (TASS)—USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze had a conversation at UN headquarters on Sunday with A.A. al-Dali, minister of state for foreign affairs of the Republic of Yemen.

E.A. Shevardnadze congratulated the Yemeni people on their historic event—the unification of their motherland. A.A. al-Dali stressed that this was successfully achieved with the support of the friendly Soviet Union, and he expressed his hope for a further strengthening of the traditional close Soviet-Yemeni ties.

During the course of the coversation, the exceptional significance of Arab unity for the settlement of the Persian Gulf crisis was stressed. On the Soviet side, a high appraisal was given to the positive vote by Yemen on Resolution 670 of the UN Security Council, which envisages new measures for intensifying economic sanctions against Iraq.

Sets Consular Ties With Israel

LD3009165890 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1634 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] United Nations, 30 Sep (TASS)—There has been a meeting at the UN Headquarters here between USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze and Israeli Foreign Minister D. Levi.

After their meeting the ministers talked briefly to journalists. Eduard Shevardnadze noted that there had been a frank and constructive conversation. A wide range of problems was discussed, and the situation in the Near East in particular. A decision was made to establish consular relations between the two countries. There was also discussion about establishing direct air links. However, it was decided to continue discussion of this issue later in view of the complex nature of this issue. The sides agreed to create machinery for regular consultations at various levels, including at the level of foreign ministers.

Views Relations With Israel

LD3009212890 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1955 GMT 30 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondents Nikolay Maslov, Yevgeniy Menkes, and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] UN, 30 Sep (TASS)—The Soviet Union and Israel have agreed to establish consular relations. E.A. Shevardnadze and D. Levi, foreign ministers of the USSR and Israel, briefed journalists about this on Sunday after the end of their meeting in the UN Headquarters.

Our conversation was interesting and necessary, and took place in a good and businesslike atmosphere, E.A. Shevardnadze stated. We said that changes have taken place in our relations recently, including contacts at a political level. Economic relations are developing at the level of chambers of commerce. A very important meeting took place between Comrade Gorbachev, president of our country, and Israeli ministers. Many Soviet political figures and representatives of the public have visited Israel. That is improving our relations.

We have also agreed on the establishment of consular relations between the two countries, the USSR foreign minister noted. We have agreed that consulates will be opened in Tel Aviv and Moscow. We will decide questions as will arise in the course of work. Organizational and structural questions, questions of numbers, all of this is to be discussed. But we can do that in one week or in 10 days time.

The second question is very important. Essentially, consultations are under way between us. But we have now

decided to legalize consultations, to create a mechanism of regular consultations between the Foreign Ministries, including at the level of foreign ministers; that is, the Israeli foreign minister and I are to meet now on a regular basis.

The strengthening of peace and security in the Near East will be a most important element of our consultations, the Soviet minister said further. That is at the broadest level. All of that must be worked out in detail in the future. There will be separate topics, separate problems, directions which should be discussed at a working level.

Speaking about the possibility of opening direct air links between the two countries, the minister noted that this issue was also discussed. That is a complex and difficult question, and we have decided to return to it, he said. We will inform you of the decision which will be adopted.

In reply to numerous questions on the crisis in the Persian Gulf, E.A. Shevardnadze referred correspondents to his address at the 45th UN General Assembly session. We will act within the framework of the Security Council's resolutions, and will implement its decisions, he said.

UN Opens World Summit for Children in New York

Summit Under Way 29 Sep

LD3009091890 Moscow TASS in English 0845 GMT 30 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondents Mikhail Kochetkov, Nikolay Maslov, Yevgeniy Menkes, and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] United Nations September 30 TASS—The World Summit for Children opened at the U.N. headquarters here on Saturday night. Heads of state and government from 70 countries came here to attend it in order to give a strong political impetus to creating a better future for all children of the world.

Leaders of six countries—Egypt, Canada, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan and Sweden—are the initiators of this unprecedented forum. Speaking at the opening ceremony, Swedish Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson stressed that the summit means "the determination of all its participants to do even more for ensuring the survival, protection and development of children."

A total volume of military expenditures of industrially developed and developing countries is much higher than a total annual income of the poorer half of the world population, James Grant, executive director of UNICEF (the U.N. Children's Fund), told TASS. He is the one who put forward the idea of holding this world forum. Even five or ten per cent of this enormous sum would be enough for accelerating progress and, specifically, for creating proper conditions for life and development of all children of the world.

If the present trends are not changed, some 100 million children will die of diseases and malnutrition in the 90s. These children will not fall victim of an unexpected flood or hunger. They will die unnoticed by the rest of the world—as a result of the dehydration of organism, of acute pneumonia, tetanus, fever, measles or whooping cough.

The world community has accumulated considerable experience of using simple and unexpensive methods of preventing many children's diseases and of their treatment. The task is to make these advanced methods to be available to all children in the world.

All expenditures, including programmes of preventing malnutrition and the reduction of the death rate, will amount to 2.5 billion dollars annually by the end of the 90s. This is quite a large sum. However, according to the U.N. statistics, it is only one per cent of military expenditures of the poor countries, which is equal to the cost of five American Stealth bombers. According to international experts, it is also equal to the cost of vodka consumed in the USSR during one month. The U.S. spends this sum every year on the advertising of cigarettes, and for developing countries it is equal to a weekly debt servicing. For humanity in general it is the volume of military expenditures per day.

No matter what explanations are given, one cannot reconcile himself to the idea that the world is unable to prevent the death and starvation of millions of children. It is for this reason that the summit is being held at the United Nations, which will adopt a declaration and a plan of action. They will show the determination of political leaders to reach an ambition task in the 90s—to ensure children's health and create proper conditions for their development.

Shevardnadze Makes Statement

LD2909225690 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2205 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] United Nations, 30 Sep (TASS)—On handing over the message of M.S. Gorbachev to the world summit meeting for the sake of children to its chairmen, B. Mulroney and M. Traore, E.A. Shevardnadze, USSR minister of foreign affairs, made the following statement:

The Soviet Union highly values the initiative of the leaders of the six countries behind the world summit meeting for the sake of children and their great personal contribution to its preparation. This forum provides a chance to evaluate, in a responsible, all-round way, the problems in the world and to determine by collective effort ways to solve them.

The idea of holding this meeting met with warm support in our country and from M.S. Gorbachev, president of the USSR, who regards it as one of the most important meetings of international dialogue about ways to build a secure and civilized world order. We are convinced that the very future of mankind depends on whether the

whole world manages to guarantee reliable protection for childhood and can improve the living conditions of the young citizens of our planet.

The final documents of the meeting—the declaration and plan of action—will determine the political framework for complementary acts at the national and international levels with the aim of ensuring a secure, stable, and favorable future for all the children of our planet. The "trio" of aims which has been put in the declaration—the survival, protection, and development of children—will lead the international community on to a qualitatively new degree of constructive cooperation in what is a most sacred and noble matter. In the end, whatever good is done on our earth is for the well-being of the future generations, for a happy childhood. In implementing the great perestroyka in our country, we are thinking about the future, about our children, and about the children of the earth.

The time is not far off when we shall hand the fate of the world over to the upcoming generation. What will this world be like; who will receive it from us; shall we be free of worry about the fate of the future? Mankind is waiting for the answers to these and many other questions, and we have no right to deceive these expectations.

The extremely intensive rhythm of work of the USSR president, particularly in the past few weeks, has prevented him from taking part personally in this representative forum. M.S. Gorbachev entrusted me with handing you his message to those attending the world meeting, and his message to the children of the world, and wishing on his behalf success in the work of all those attending the meeting.

Gorbachev Sends Message

LD3009090990 Moscow TASS in English 2100 GMT 29 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondents Yevgeniy Menkes and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] New York September 29 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze handed a message by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to the children of the world to co-chairmen of the World Summit for Children (to open on Sunday)—President Moussa Traore of Mali and Prime Minister Brian Mulroney of Canada—at the United Nations headquarters here today.

Follows the text of the address:

"Dear junior citizens of the world,

I have been given this wonderful opportunity to extend my heartfelt greetings to you.

This meeting is unprecedented not only in terms of its high level. It looks into the next century and is taking place at the dawn of a new era in world development when the first strides have been made towards a new world order.

Many obstacles have yet to be overcome. All of us shall have to work hard to get rid of the ills inherited from the past: of the habit of resolving international and other controversies by force of arms, of the tendency to build one's own prosperity at the exnepse of others, of the dangerous environmental pollution, of claims to superiority and special rights in the world community or one's own country, of racial, nationalistic, religious and ideological prejudice, famine and poverty, disease, drug abuse and alcoholism, backwardness and illiteracy.

You should be ready to take over, to prepare yourselves to enter the new world with a sense of awareness and responsibility, to enhance and pass on humanity's knowledge, its culture and humanistic ideals. You are to learn the skill of living in harmony, in an atmosphere of mutual respect, cooperation and mutual assistance.

We must stick together if the difficulties of this period of transition are to be overcome. Our recent experience has vividly demonstrated what solidarity and active sympathy can accomplish when our country was shaken by the earthquake in Armenia and the Chernobyl disaster. Children were among the victims, and our sincere gratitude goes to all those who have lent them a helping hand. This is something one never forgets.

Dear kids,

What the world will be like tomorrow depends on you, and we, the older generation, are confident that the world's destiny will rest in proper hands, good and skillful.

On behalf of the Soviet people let me wish to the children of all nations best of health and happiness."

United States & Canada

Gorbachev Receives General Electric Executive

LD2809164190 Moscow TASS in English 1621 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow September 28 TASS—President Mikhail Gorbachev met General Electric Board Chairman and Executive Director Jack Welch in Moscow today.

Gorbachev praised General Electric as a reliable partner.

The firm, one of the leading U.S. companies, began cooperating with the Soviet Union way back in the 1920s.

Many years of partnership between General Electric and Soviet organisations are a good example for other Western firms, he said.

"The Soviet Union is living through dramatic, tough but creative time. It is precisely now that our present and future is being determined in connection with the interest of the entire world community. The Soviet people understand the need to radicalise the economic reform, revitalise finances, change the forms and types of property ownership and move to market mechanisms," Gorbachev said.

"All this opens up new vistas for Soviet-American economic cooperation. We openly state that we want to attract foreign investment and use newest technologies and rich international commercial expertise," he said.

"On our part we are prepared to ensure stability and provide legal and economic guarantees, required for this type of cooperation," he said.

Welch said that General Electric and other U.S. business circles were interested in expanding contacts with the Soviet Union and were prepared to support Soviet economic reforms.

The sides discussed specific problems of cooperation between Soviet organisations and General Electric in the energy, aviation and medical industries.

Cheney Cited on U.S. Troop Cuts in Europe

PM2809130990 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 1

[Unattributed report under the rubric "TASS, REUTER, UPI, FRANCE PRESSE Transmit": "Reduction of U.S. Troops in Europe"]

[Text] U.S. Defense Secretary R. Cheney has announced plans to reduce the number of U.S. troops in Europe by 40,000 in fiscal 1991. This measure is being undertaken under an agreement with the United States' NATO allies and on the threshold of the conclusion of an accord before the end of this year on conventional Armed Forces in Europe.

General Moiseyev Begins Trip to U.S. 30 Sep

Interviewed on Eve of Visit

PM2909174190 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Sep 90 First Edition p 5

[Interview with Army General M.A. Moiseyev, chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister, by unidentified correspondent; place and date not given: "From the Image of the Enemy to the Image of the Partner"]

[Text] On the eve of his official visit to the United States, Army General M.A. Moiseyev, chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister, gave an interview to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] Comrade Army General, what, in your opinion, is the distinctive feature of the present stage of Soviet-U.S. relations in the military sphere?

[Moiseyev] In my view, it is defined by the accords reached by the leaders of the USSR and the United States. The Soviet and U.S. leaders stated in Malta in December 1989 that the "cold war" was a thing of the past. In June this year at the Camp David talks they theoretically determined how they would act after the "cold war." The September summit in Helsinki marked a qualitatively new level in Soviet-U.S. relations, not least in the military sphere. Essentially we defined for the first time how the Soviet Union and the United States should act at a time of an acute regional crisis. I am referring to events in the Persian Gulf.

Assessing our relations today with the United States in the military sphere, I can note that there is more glasnost, mutual understanding, and trust in this sphere. There are no subjects closed to discussion between us. We see each other not so much as potential enemies as partners in building a safer world.

One more point. The foundation of these relations was laid by all the painstaking previous activity of our two countries' political and military leaderships. We trust that Soviet-U.S. contacts in the military sphere will be further developed during my visit to the United States.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] What is the aim of your visit to the United States?

[Moiseyev] It is largely determined by the current situation, which is looking very difficult in the Near East and the Gulf, in particular. General Powell recently visited that region and, clearly, we will have things to discuss.

Moreover, we could obviously continue the discussion begun in Vienna in January on Soviet and U.S. military doctrines. I intend to discuss with Gen. Powell the possibility of carrying out joint military-scientific research on the issues of military building, stability, and security following the radical reduction in strategic offensive weapons and conventional arms in Europe.

One other important point: The plan for military contacts in 1989-90, which has been almost entirely carried out, is drawing to a close. It will be concluded by U.S. Defense Secretary R. Cheney's visit to the USSR 13-18 October this year. So we have to decide how to act in the future: whether we should have a new plan for contacts or some other kind of agreement.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] What is your opinion on this matter?

[Moiseyev] I advocate developing contacts on a planned basis. I will not be revealing any secrets if I say that, on the basis of a mutual exchange of proposals, we have already drawn up a new Soviet-U.S. plan for military contacts in 1991-92 and we would like to introduce it during my visit to the United States. This document is the logical continuation of the previous two-year plan for contacts. And although the number of events remains at the previous level, they have undergone a change in the quality of their content. All categories of servicemen will now participate extensively in them—from ordinary soldiers to the top military leadership.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] What does the program for your visit specifically envisage?

[Moiseyev] The U.S. side has put forward interesting proposals on events for the Soviet delegation's visit. Since this will be my first trip to the United States, for me it is important above all to familiarize myself with its Armed Forces. We will visit many military installations and different states in the east and west of the country. We will have many interesting meetings, including a possible meeting with the leadership of the country and the Defense Department and with members of the House Armed Services Committee.

I have been asked to address quite a prestigious audience made up of representatives of the Chamber of Commerce and the northern California international relations concord and consultation club. I was happy to accept the invitation and am preparing for my speech.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] What will be the most complex problems in the talks between you and Gen. C. Powell, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff?

[Moiseyev] One of the problems is the search for ways to overcome the obstacles that still exist at the talks in Geneva and Vienna. As is well known, these talks are being conducted by representatives of the USSR Foreign Ministry and the U.S. State Department. I would like the Soviet General Staff and the U.S. Joint Chiefs to make their contribution to the talks and to help resolve those problems on which differences still exist.

I recall that there has been a political decision to sign a strategic offensive weapons treaty by the end of this year, and to prepare to sign an agreement on conventional force reductions in Europe by the Paris meeting of the leaders of 35 states, which, according to preliminary information, will be held 19 November this year. This task is very difficult, but entirely feasible. And the USSR Armed Forces General Staff and the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff could make their contribution to its implementation.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] What specifically is being discussed?

[Moiseyev] In Geneva, for instance, there are a number of questions on which agreement has not been reached: the importance of not circumventing a strategic offensive weapons treaty; the importance of not siting strategic offensive weapons on the territory of third countries; and the maintenance of links between a strategic offensive weapons treaty and the 1972 ABM Treaty.

As for the Vienna talks, the problems there are different: the level of one country's arms sufficiency; aircraft; regional arms levels; the timetable for and methods of eliminating the military hardware due to be cut; and certain other issues.

Needless to say, we would like to clarify the Joint Chiefs' attitude to these unresolved issues. Moreover, it is important for us to know the Joint Chiefs' position regarding U.S. readiness to start talks on naval forces and the complete ending of nuclear weapons testing.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] You have already met with Gen. Powell. What can you say about him, both as a partner in talks and as a man?

[Moiseyev] I first met with Gen. Powell in Vienna this January. Even then he made a very positive impression on me. He is erudite and sociable. He has a delightful sense of humor. It seems to me that not only did we quickly find common ground, but we also gained each other's respect. Incidentally, we have similar backgrounds, and our careers have coincided in many respects.

I am convinced that during the visit our business and personal relationship will be further developed. This will be our contribution to improving Soviet-U.S. relations and to building a safer world.

Discusses Goals of Visit

PM3009130390 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Interview with Army General M. Moiseyev, chief of staff of the USSR Armed Forces and USSR first deputy defense minister, by own correspondent V. Litovkin; place and date not given; published under the "Details for IZVESTIYA" rubric: "Why the General Staff Chief Is Flying Abroad"]

[Text] The official visit first to the United States and then to Cuba by the chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister begins 30 September. On the eve of the visit our correspondent met with Army General M. Moiseyev and asked him to answer a number of questions.

[Litovkin] Mikhail Alekseyevich, just two or three years ago we could not even dream of our military men visiting the NATO countries—much less the United States—or of their officers and generals visiting us. Such visits have now become commonplace. Why are our generals flying abroad?

[Moiseyev] It is not only the generals. For example, the United States has hosted Soviet military cadets, academy students, and various staff officers; warships have visited there; and our military pilots have demonstrated their skills in the Su-27, the MiG-29, the An-124... This has now become a practice which marks a turn away from the politics of confrontation toward the politics of mutual trust and openness. If we get to know and understand each other better, the enemy image will recede further into the past, and our peoples' security will be all the more stronger.

[Litovkin] What then are the aims of and program for your visits to the United States and Cuba?

[Moiseyev] I have partly answered that. I can only add that this is my first trip to the United States, and it will be very interesting for me personally to familiarize myself with that country's life and its Armed Forces, and to establish close contacts with the Pentagon leadership and the representatives of the Chiefs of Staff...

The program for the visit includes familiarization with military installations such as the Ellsworth (South Dakota) intercontinental ballistic missile and strategic heavy bomber base, familiarization with the combat training of the 10th Light Infantry Division at Fort Drum (New York), the North Island naval airbase in San Diego (California), a visit to the North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) underground complex in Cheyenne (Colorado), and visits to a tank plant in Detroit and a number of other facilities.

Moreover, I will be having numerous meetings and talks—particularly at the House Armed Services Committee—and discussions with General C. Powell, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff. A meeting with U.S. Defense Secretary R. Cheney and U.S. President G. Bush is not ruled out either.

I plan to address representatives of the Chamber of Commerce and the Northern California international relations concord and consultation club... Naturally, I cannot list the entire program.

In Cuba I plan to meet with the leadership of the republic's Revolutionary Armed Forces and possibly with the country's leadership.

[Litovkin] Will you be discussing in the United States a plan for joint military action in the Gulf?

[Moiseyev] No. Our position on that is well known. We advocate a peaceful solution to the conflict.

[Litovkin] The eve of your visit to the United States saw the publication of the book "Soviet Military Power." How do you assess this step?

[Moiseyev] It is not a book, but a small brochure. In contrast to the previous eight editions, its tone has been softened in many respects. But I cannot fail to note that there is, nonetheless, a fly in the ointment. Specifically, it states that our country allegedly poses a threat of destruction to the United States. In actual fact this is entirely wrong. I hope that my visit to the United States will make it possible to reaffirm our love of peace yet again.

Arrives at Air Force Base

LD3009232690 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2225 GMT 30 Sep 90

[By TASS special correspondents Stanislav Lunev and Oleg Moskovskiy]

[Text] Washington, 1 Oct (TASS)—Army General Mikhail Moiseyev, chief of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces and first deputy USSR defense minister, arrived Sunday at Andrews Air Force Base on the outskirts of the American capital. His official visit is taking place at the invitation of Colin Powell, chairman of the United States Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff, and will last until 5 October.

During his stay in the American capital, Army General M.A. Moiseyev will meet U.S. President George Bush, Defense Secretary Richard Cheney, the chairman and members of the Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff, representatives of the public, and of congressional business, and military American circles. The chief of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces will make a trip round the country, during which he will visit American military installations, in particular, in New York, Michigan, South Dakota, California, and Colorado.

Long-Term U.S. Plans in Gulf Questioned

90UF0566A Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 3

[Article by correspondent A. Shalnev: "The Pentagon's Plans and Americans' Opinions"]

[Text] New York—The Pentagon is working on plans to ensure the United States' permanent military presence in Saudi Arabia and the creation in Persian Gulf countries of a network of bases for the U.S. Air Force. This was reported Thursday by THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, citing both U.S. and Saudi sources.

The newspaper report contradicts the administration's public statements. Literally a week ago Secretary of State James Baker, who was at that time on a visit to Syria, emphasized that the United States "has no intention or desire to keep its Army in the region on a permanent basis."

True, the same Baker was hinting quite transparently at the start of September that a new "regional security system," the idea of whose creation is being nurtured by Washington, would provide for the deployment in the region of U.S. Armed Forces also.

It is difficult to say which of the secretary of state's two statements more accurately reflects the essence of what is currently happening in the depths of the Pentagon. It would seem to me, however, that THE WALL STREET JOURNAL is hardly a victim of disinformation. The official refutations currently coming out could be explained, most likely, by the fact that Washington is by no means interested in a public debate concerning its strategic plans in the Persian Gulf zone.

That plans for ensuring a military presence are in fact being drawn up is indicated by the following fact also: Their existence has been indirectly confirmed by the Saudis. "We were opposed to such an idea for many years," one of them said. "But the U.S. Army wants this, and our resistance might on this occasion prove not that strong."

What, specifically, is envisaged by the plans, in whose formulation high-ranking officers from the staff of General Carl Vuono, Army chief of staff, are participating? According to reports in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, it is a question, specifically, of the deployment in Saudi Arabia of "at least one heavy mechanized brigade and support forces totaling 7,000-8,000 men. The Army would also like to stockpile a quantity of weapons which—in the event of a further crisis—would be sufficient to arm forces five or six times that number."

In turn, the Air Force, the paper continues, "is hoping for permanent deployment in Oman, the United Arab Emirates, and Kuwait." The marines have plans also: The marines would like to have—permanently stored in an area of the Near East—an additional number of tanks and other weapons.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL acknowledges that the plans have yet to be approved either by Defense Secretary Cheney, Powell, chairman of the Chiefs of Staff, or President Bush. But the mere fact that such plans are being drawn up is important.

Meanwhile ABC television reported that, as CIA Director William Webster confirmed, Iraq has bacteriological warfare capability.

Yet the vast majority of Americans has once again voiced support for military measures against the Saddam Husayn regime in the event of the economic and political measures failing to produce the requisite result. According to a poll conducted jointly by ABC and THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, 56 percent of American residents would support the President were he to decide to go to war against Iraq. In addition, 53 percent of those polled believe that military measures should be taken even if there are still American hostages in Iraq and Kuwait. As a whole, almost 80 percent of Americans are satisfied with the way President George Bush is handling the crisis in the Persian Gulf.

At the same time, the poll revealed Americans' growing concern at the situation on the domestic economic front. From the viewpoint of more than half those polled, the onset of a recession in the U.S. economy is to be expected next year. There were only half as many pessimists in July, when a similar poll was conducted.

China

Border Cooperation Agreement Signed With PRC

LD2809135990 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0600 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] An agreement has been signed in Khabarovsk on cooperation between the Far Eastern border region and the border militia of the neighboring Chinese province of Heilongjiang. A new level of relationship between the border guards of the two countries has been brought about by the expansion of trade-economic and cultural exchange. A direct air route from Khabarovsk to Harbin is already in operation. The major river ports of the Amur and Sungari are open to Soviet and Chinese vessels.

The agreement provides for the creation of new border control points, simpler border crossing procedures, without the need for visas, and other measures to strengthen mutual trust.

CPC Party School Delegation Visits USSR

PM2809121190 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Sep 90 Second Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "Agreement Signed"]

[Text] At the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences a delegation from the CPC Central Committee party school headed by Xue Ju, member of the CPC Central Committee and first provice-chancellor of the school.

As a result of constructive talks between the leadership of the CPC Central Committee party school and the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences an agreement on bilateral cooperation was signed.

The delegation visited Leningrad and Rostov-na-Donu, where it was acquainted with the activity of the Leningrad and Rostov higher party schools and the CPSU oblast, city, and rayon committees.

PRC Delegation's Visit to Mongolia Assessed

OW2609060590 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0100 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Listeners and friends, a Chinese military delegation headed by Fu Jiaping, director of the Foreign Affairs

Bureau of the Chinese Ministry of National Defense, is now visiting Mongolia. In this connection, station observer Alekseyev writes:

This is the first visit by a Chinese military delegation to Mongolia since 1961. Relations between Mongolia and China froze [words indistinct] problems appeared between the two neighbors in the mid-1960's. The relations between the two countries were tense for more than 20 years, and the estrangement and lack of confidence between the two countries did not go away until the early half of the 1980's, when relations between the two countries quickly changed for the better.

The treaty the two countries signed in 1988 governing their boundaries and the settlement of border disputes laid down the foundation upon which the border between the two countries can be made into one of peace and good neighborliness. When the foreign affairs ministers of the two countries exchanged visits in 1989, both Beijing and Ulaanbataar stressed that the exchange of visits showed that relations between the two countries would be normalized. Eventually (?they were).

Relations between the two countries reached a new level last spring as a result of the important visit to China by Ochirbat, chairman of the Presidium of the Mongolian People's Great Hural and the incumbent Mongolian president. Beijing's RENMIN RIBAO wrote: The first visit paid to China by the Mongolian state leader in 28 years has laid a strong foundation for the two countries to develop their mutual beneficial relations on a broad basis. I believe the current visit by the Chinese military delegation to Mongolia should be assessed on that basis.

What has brought about—and is still bringing about—the Mongolian-Chinese rapprochment? Naturally, it is the two countries' common aspiration to put an end to the past so that their bilateral ties will get back on the track of good neighborliness. It is also because both Ulaanbataar and Beijing wanted to develop full-scale cooperation for mutual benefit. Without a doubt, important catalysts of this process were the steps being taken in the military sphere. China's reduction of its armed forces by one million was regarded in Mongolia as a major event in those days. China also highly evaluated the Moscow-Ulaanbataar decision to pull out Soviet troops from Mongolia. By the end of this year, three-fourths of Soviet troops in Mongolia will have been withdrawn from Mongolia.

Northeast Asia

USSR-ROK Establish Diplomatic Relations

LD3009172490 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1707 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] UN, 30 Sep (TASS)—The USSR and Republic of Korea will establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level as of today, 30 September 1990. This decision was made at today's meeting at the UN Headquarters in New York between Eduard Shevardnadze, USSR foreign minister, and Choe Ho-Chung, foreign minister of South Korea.

As is noted in a communique adopted at this meeting, "both sides declare that relations between the USSR and Republic of Korea will be based on principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, full equality and mutual benefit in accordance with the UN Charter."

The sides expressed the conviction that "this step will promote the strengthening of stability and a peaceful settlement on the Korean Peninsula, and they proceed from the premise that it in no way affects their relations with third countries."

TASS Presents 'Text' of Communique

LD3009181190 Moscow TASS in English 1757 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] United Nations September 30 TASS—Follows full text of joint communique on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Korea.

"Guided by the desire to develop friendly ties and cooperation between the two countries in various fields, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Republic of Korea decided to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level as of today, September 30, 1990.

The two sides declare that relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Republic of Korea will be based on the principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference in internal affairs of each other, full equality and mutual benefit in accordance with the U.N. Charter.

The two sides are convinced that this step will contribute to enhancing stability and to a peaceful settlement on the Korean Peninsula, and proceed from the premise that it will never affect their relations with third countries.

They will exchange their diplomatic missions as soon as possible after diplomatic relations are established. The two sides will provide necessary assistance to each other in establishing and performing the duties of diplomatic missions in their capitals in full conformity with the 1961 Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations."

Shevardnadze Comments on Ties

LD3009214590 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2038 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Report by TASS correspondent Mikhail Kochetkov on news conference by USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze at the United Nations in New York on 30 September with unidentified reporters]

[Text] United Nations, 30 Sep (TASS)—Eduard Shevardnadze, USSR foreign minister, answered journalists' questions following a meeting with the foreign minister of the Republic of Korea, during which the decision was made to establish diplomatic relations between the two countries.

[Reporter] As of what date are diplomatic relations between the USSR and South Korea being established?

[Shevardnadze] As of today.

[Reporter] Are there plans for a visit by Mikhail Gorbachev to South Korea, or for a visit by President No Tae-u to Moscow?

[Shevardnadze] There will probably be visits at the summit level, but this must be decided by the presidents. I have invited the minister to visit Moscow and have received a similar invitation. During these visits we will discuss visits at the summit level.

[Reporter] What questions were discussed at today's meeting?

[Shevardnadze] We talked a lot about problems of security and stability in the Asian-Pacific region. We think that without South Korea, without taking the South Korean factor into account, it is difficult to talk about these problems. We also discussed bilateral relations with the Republic of Korea. We stressed particularly that good and fine relations between us do not contradict the interests of other countries. We agreed, and there is no doubt here, that our good relations also meet the interests both of our own peoples, and those of other peoples and countries.

[Reporter] What do you think of the recent improvement in relations between Japan and North Korea?

[Shevardnadze] We think that that is a normal phenomenon. We welcome such a step. I also want to add one thing. You know of our special relations with the DPRK. We have built these relations over the course of many years. These are relations of friendship and good-neighborliness. We are determined that our relations with the DPRK will continue to develop on such a basis. In this respect, nothing is changing. On the contrary, more favorable conditions are being created for the development of our relations with North Korea and with all countries of the region.

[Reporter] You do not exclude the unification of the two Koreas in the future?

[Shevardnadze] I think that will be a natural process. The aim of both North and South Korea is the unification of the homeland. We would like to further that as far as possible.

ROK Students Stage Protest at U.S. Center

SK0110085890 Moscow International Service in Korean 1100 GMT 27 Sep 90

[From "Asian News" under "Focus on Asia" program]

[Text] Police today fired blank shots at ROK university students who attempted to attack the U.S. Cultural Center in Kwangju City. According to an ROK news report, the university students attempted to attack the U.S. Cultural Center to express their protest over Washington's pressure on the ROK to increase imports of U.S. agricultural products. The university students also protested ROK participation in the U.S. operations in the Persian Gulf.

Kim Il-song on Nuclear Weapons Reported

SK0110083290 Moscow International Service in Korean 1100 GMT 27 Sep 90

[From "Asian News" progam under "Focus on Asia" program]

[Text] DPRK President Kim Il-song said that it is not possible for his country to produce nuclear weapons nor has it attempted to possess them. This statement was made when he met a delegation of Japanese political parties in Pyongyang.

The DPRK has joined the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. However, the Republic has refused to allow an international inspection team to enter its territory. This has aroused skepticism among Japan and other Western countries.

According to reports, talks with the Japanese delegation in Pyongyang led to agreement to improve relations between the DPRK and Japan.

Kaifu Approves Japanese Credit for Soviet Union

PM2709131190 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Sep 90 Second Edition p 4

[PRAVDA-TASS report under general heading "From News Flow"]

[Text] Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu has approved a proposal on granting the USSR credits worth five billion yen (about $35 million) made by a group of Japanese parliament deputies from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party who have visited the Soviet Union. At their meeting Kaifu indicated the importance of using various channels to establish trust in relations between Japan and the USSR on the threshold of USSR President M.S. Gorbachev's planned visit to Japan in April next year.

Japanese Parliamentarians Received by Gorbachev

PM2809104590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Sep 90 Second Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "Active Political Contacts"]

[Text] In connection with the Japanese Culture Week held in the USSR, a large group of Japanese parliament deputies from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party headed by Keizo Obuchi has been in Moscow since 20 September. The Japanese parliamentarians were received by USSR President M.S. Gorbachev. They had meetings with A.I. Lukyanov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet; A.N. Yakovlev, member of the USSR Presidential Council; USSR Defense Minister D.T. Yazov; V.M. Falin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and members of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee for Foreign Affairs, the leadership of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet Presidium, leaders of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet standing committees and commissions, I.S. Silayev, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, and leading workers of a number of ministries and departments. During the talks which took place both sides expressed the opinion that it is necessary to seek new, more effective paths toward mutual understanding and cooperation between the two neighboring states. In this connection they stressed the special importance which both sides attach to M.S. Gorbachev's forthcoming visit to Japan in the spring of 1991.

On the evening of 25 September the Japanese parliamentarians left for home.

Japanese Defense Publication Copes With New Era

PM2809142390 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 5

[Report by S. Agafonov: "Deleted Paragraph, or Invisible Ink in the 'White Book'"]

[Excerpts] Tokyo—This Tuesday, as is the custom, the comprehensive yearbook prepared by the Japanese National Defense Agency (NDA), the "White Book on Defense," was ceremonially presented in the presence of a large crowd of reporters.

In view of the dearth of news this hot, rainy September, my Japanese colleagues of the pen have elevated this to a major event, seizing on what is, perhaps, the only spark of excitement in this latest edition of the "White Book"—in comparison to its 10 predecessors, this year's NDA publication is minus one very vital paragraph, which traditionally refers to the "Soviet military threat." The story goes that the paragraph was in the original and stayed there virtually until the moment when the copy was due to be sent to press, but then—under personal pressure from Prime Minister Kaifu and with some active lobbying by other members of the cabinet and parliamentarians—it was deleted, which is something of a small sensation that will probably be remembered in Japan for several weeks to come.

The fact that the Soviet Union has been paid this rather original compliment is, of course, agreeable and can be welcomed per se without even stumbling over the point that, while deleting this ill-starred term, the authors of the book have nevertheless retained in virtually untouched form all the arguments leading up to it. In this particular case it is evidently not the arguments that are most important but the symbol, which was strongly cultivated during the cold war years and so became an irrefutable argument and compelling factor to be taken into account when drawing up policy. So this is, undoubtedly, an achievement.

However, I would like to talk about something else: In particular, about the fact that the deletion of just this one paragraph from the NDA book opens a new chapter in Japanese foreign policy and leads to a whole range of problems which the remarkable country of Japan must resolve in the near future. This is no exaggeration—the "Soviet threat," enshrined in print and issuing from Japanese platforms, was virtually the last link that kept Tokyo in the trappings of the old international order. It suited Japan down to the ground: The old way of doing things was calm and satisfying, and so it is certainly no accident that Tokyo is the last member of the "Western club" to renounce the old system—not at its own will, however, but spurred on by its partners and allies, the United States in particular. Looked at from this angle, the deleted paragraph is certainly not a goodwill gesture to Moscow in view of the Soviet president's forthcoming visit to Japan, as it is now being interpreted, but something much more significant which goes far beyond the limits of Soviet-Japanese relations. It is a forced farewell to the extremely comfortable niche in which Tokyo has successfully and with benefit to itself spent the turbulent decades of world collisions—inextricably bound up with the ideological struggle and highly damaging to the main protagonists in the foreign policy game. [passage omitted]

When the end of the cold war was proclaimed on Malta in December last year this historic act was welcomed by everyone, with the exception of Tokyo: As far as Japan is concerned, Malta signified the end of the longest period of guaranteed prosperity in its history. This conclusion is not this author's invention but a summary I have found in many Japanese commentaries on this important event. Japan had no illusions on this score: It was sure that, once they had rid themselves of the arms race, the United States and Europe would start to seriously tackle their own economic affairs, which meant Japanese successes first and foremost. It did not have to wait long for these predictions to be realized: Japanese politicians and businessmen are already unanimous in the belief that relations with their closest partners are going into a steep dive, and that pulling out of this dive is fraught with major losses.

The economy should be discussed as a serious, separate issue, however, so we will confine ourselves to politics. The situation is not very attractive for Tokyo in this respect either. With the revision of the confrontational model, all the powers in the "Western club" have their own independent "means of livelihood," political baggage, and clear priorities, whereas Japan's "political dowry" is not very great, to put it mildly. It is, therefore, no accident that, in the new international conditions and

against the background of the truly historic changes taking place in the world, Japan has found itself on the sidelines of key processes—in the role of onlooker rather than participant. Japan's script for the present world situation has not yet been written, or, to be more precise, is being made up as it goes along, without proper time to prepare and "trying to catch up" with those who are already a long way down the new road.

But even this has its limits. Tokyo is too late for the European festivities: Other players are already there. Attempts to become involved in resolving the Cambodia problem have met with no great response so far. Japan is hardly likely to become mediator in the inter-Korean dialogue, if only because history will prevent this. It certainly will not be able to work political miracles in the Near East with the situation as it now stands. Taking the initiative on a Western dialogue with China is more realistic, but one must assume that the West will not hand over this prerogative to the Japanese. Apart from an active role in the United Nations and initiatives in the struggle for a clean environment, there is perhaps only one worthy sphere left for political action: the task of easing tension and building mutual understanding in the Asian-Pacific region as a whole and the Far East in particular. There is vast scope for activity but, whatever angle you approach from, you come up against the Soviet Union....

It is possible and even probable that this is a rather oversimplified construction, but it could hardly be described as unreasonable. In any case, this interpretation seems logical to many Japanese specialists and observers, although the logic itself does not arouse enthusiasm at present. Attachment to the old world order is still strong, the firmly entrenched stereotypes still powerful, and the desire to break them too weak. But they will have to be broken eventually, because the world is changing—and these changes cannot be ignored when the possibility of sitting it out once more in the familiar old niche is disappearing.

Perhaps this is what is written in invisible ink in the NDA "White Book"? It seems to me that the deleted paragraph about the Soviet threat does not remove this version....

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Moscow Says Khmer Rouge Have Not Changed

BK2909095690 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1100 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Commentary by observer Viktor Valentino]

[Text] The talks of the four Cambodian parties involved in a protracted armed conflict are continuing. Problems which until recently were considered deadlocked are being solved one after another. The meeting in Jakarta has set up a framework for normalizing the situation, a Supreme National Council, and a candidate for the chairmanship of the council.

However, all these steps are only transitional. A cease-fire is the first concrete step toward allowing the Cambodian people some breathing space. As long as military operations continue, no one can say that Cambodia is moving along the road to peace. It is enough to consider the current situation in the country.

The troops of the opposing side, with the Khmer Rouge as the core, have constantly attacked positions of government forces. Furthermore, the Khmer Rouge have also savagely attacked peaceful villages and communes. Subversionists infiltrated into Cambodia from neighboring Thailand have exploded bombs in towns. I would like to cite a recent example. The Khmer Rouge attacked two trains on the Phnom Penh-Battambang railway line killing over 50 people. Amnesty International has denounced the Pol Pot group for these attacks and appealed for the trial of criminals. The Pol Pot group has a few times attacked villages and communes in Ratanamondol District in Battambang Province causing death and destruction to villagers. In Battambang and Banteay Meanchey Provinces, 9,000 families have been forced to leave their home villages and communes due to the Khmer Rouge attacks.

I have no doubt about the Cambodian people's joy after learning that a Supreme National Council has been set up. The number of members in the council has been equally divided between the government and the opposing side. Samdech Sihanouk has been elected chairman. However, the entire population would be very disappointed unless all military operations are definitively stopped. The factor ensuring a cease-fire is the end of military aid from outside to all warring Cambodian parties. In other words, to achieve this goal there should be cooperation among all countries involved in the conflict that in the past had deliberately or unintentionally fuelled the civil war.

Now the five permanent members of the UN Security Council—the Soviet Union, the United States, China, Britain, and France—have said they are ready to stop providing weapons to Cambodia. Neighboring countries—Vietnam, Laos, and the ASEAN countries—ought to prepare themselves to do the same. I believe that among the four Cambodian parties, the Phnom Penh Government has proposed a cease-fire, while the opposing side, led by Samdech Sihanouk and Son Sann, is also preparing for this. However, no one can be responsible for the Khmer Rouge; for many years they have tried to use military force to pave the way for returning to Phnom Penh and monopolizing power as during the Pol Pot regime.

This is why people cannot believe that the Khmer Rouge have changed their views and are prepared to cooperate in the cause of restoring peace. However, whether they wish to or not, sooner or later they will be compelled to do so. The sooner the better.

Rogachev Meets Malaysian Vice Foreign Minister

BK2909152090 Moscow in Malay to Malaysia 1200 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev and his Malaysian counterpart Datuk Dr. Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan held consultative talks at the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs last night. The two sides exchanged detailed views on several international and regional issues, especially the situation in the Asia-Pacific region. The two sides expressed satisfaction over the progress of bilateral relations and decided to utilize their similar views to strengthen the relations with new forms of cooperation.

IZVESTIYA Publishes Speeches

PM2809135790 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general headline: "USSR-Singapore: Accommodating One Another"]

[Text] A dinner was given 24 September in the Kremlin in honor of Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew on behalf of the USSR Government. N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Lee Kuan Yew exchanged speeches at the dinner.

N.I. Ryzhkov's Speech

Your Excellency Mr. Prime Minister and Mrs. Lee Kuan Yew,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Comrades!

We are glad to welcome the head of the Singapore Government, his wife, and the members of the Singapore delegation to the Kremlin.

Some 20 years have passed, Mr. Prime Minister, since your first visit to the Soviet Union. Since then there have been profound radical changes in the life of the Soviet state. Of course, Singapore has also changed, along with the entire world community.

The renewal processes in our country are continuing to increase in scale and intensiveness. Seven months ago, when we met in Singapore, the Soviet Union was only just approaching the realization of radical economic reform, whereas it has now embarked on the crucial phase. Our country is beginning the transition to regulated market relations and, as a result, to integration into the world economy on a new qualitative basis.

In the course of perestroyka we are also beginning to study world practice with regard to effecting socioeconomic transformations. In this context the experience of Singapore, which has been able during its independent development to achieve impressive successes in various spheres, is also of interest for us. In our view, these successes are an example of considered management of socioeconomic processes which have turned Singapore into a major regional industrial, financial, transport, and information center.

People in the Soviet Union are aware of Singapore's positive view of Soviet perestroyka and assess accordingly its readiness to assist economic reform in our country.

Thus, there is a mutual desire to accommodate one another. This creates favorable opportunities for the substantial enrichment of bilateral cooperation.

Soviet-Singapore relations are currently experiencing an appreciable boom. Political contacts are developing rapidly. The exchange of visits at the level of heads of government, meetings between foreign ministers, and the increase in interparliamentary exchanges are evidence of this. Commodity turnover is increasing, along with the number of joint ventures, and new nontraditional forms of business links are being established. Cultural and humanitarian contacts are becoming animated.

Today's Soviet-Singapore talks and the accords secured there allow us to say, in our view, that a considerable step has been taken in assimilating the potential for cooperation between our countries, above all in the economic sphere. We are wholly in favor of long-term partnership and mutually beneficial ties between the Soviet Union and Singapore. The fact that representatives of the new generation of Singapore leaders came with you, Mr. Prime Minister, will also undoubtedly help promote the stability and consistency of the positive processes in our relations.

Progress in Soviet-Singapore relations is organically linked with the profound changes taking place in the world. The climate in relations between the great powers and military-political alliances is also improving. The USSR and the United States have said that they no longer regard one another as military adversaries.

The Soviet Union and the United States have taken important steps to limit the arms race, primarily weapons of mass destruction. Europe is preparing for a CSCE summit which is to culminate in the signing of an agreement on conventional Armed Forces and armaments from the Atlantic to the Urals.

This does not of course mean that the military threat has disappeared altogether and that recurrences of the policy of force no longer overshadow international relations. The recent Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, which has met with the just condemnation from the world community, is an example of this.

But the more prominent the recent achievements in restructuring international relations on the principles of reason and law, the more insistent the precept of the inviolability of peace.

Positive changes are also taking place in the Asian-Pacific region, notably in Southeast Asia. A tendency

toward the improvement of the situation, the reduction of military-political confrontation, and the settlement of the conflicts in Afghanistan, Cambodia, and on the Korean peninsula has recently become discernible here.

On the basis of the Vladivostok and Krasnoyarsk program, we in the Soviet Union see our task as helping, in conjunction with the other countries of the Asian-Pacific region, to deepen the general regional processes leading to the affirmation of equal mutually beneficial relations in the region.

In the new historical conditions the Asian-Pacific states must, in our view, be partners in the broadest sense of the word. The creation of a multilateral negotiating mechanism in the region would accord with this aim. How are we to set about forming such a mechanism? I think that this can be achieved through the gradual establishment of dialogue on regional problems and increasing bilateral contacts, subsequently coming to a broader negotiating process, including a multilateral Conference on Security and Cooperation in Asia.

The Soviet Union is prepared to contribute to organizing and developing economic cooperation in the Asian-Pacific region. We advocate that this cooperation take into consideration the interests of all states of this vast region without exception. In this event it really would become a cohesive factor.

The ASEAN countries' idea of transforming Southeast Asia into a zone of peace and cooperation with nuclear-free status retains its attractiveness. Intraregional economic cooperation, which is helping to ease existing political problems, is developing. Singapore is seen to be playing an active role in all these processes.

Esteemed Mr. Prime Minister,

We see in your country, which is notable for its dynamism and businesslike approach, a good partner in resolving not only regional but also many international questions on which we have close or even coincidental positions. In our view the establishment of dialogue between the USSR and the ASEAN organization would promote the elaboration of joint approaches on the part of the USSR and Singapore, as well as the other ASEAN member countries, toward global and regional problems.

Allow me in conclusion to propose a toast to the health of the prime minister of Singapore and Mrs. Lee Kuan Yew, to all our Singapore guests, to the prosperity and further progress of the friendly Singapore people, and to the dynamic development of USSR-Singapore relations.

Lee Kuan Yew's Speech

Your Excellency Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Mr. Ryzhkov,
Mrs. Ryzhkov,
Your Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen!

I thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your warm words of welcome. I am glad to meet you once more, this time in your beautiful country.

The people of Singapore are struck by the size and diversity of the Soviet Union and its history. Your country's wealth of resources and the boundless energy of the Soviet people will enable you to overcome your current difficulties.

President Gorbachev's supreme fearlessness and far-sightedness have melted the ice of the cold war which imprisoned mankind for decades. The merits of his policy can be sensed throughout the world.

Since our last meeting the most complex problem in Southeast Asia—that of Cambodia—has reached the settlement phase. The good work that has been accomplished by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and, in particular, the Soviet and PRC decisions to bring their influence to bear in support of the peace movement have made it possible to elaborate an outline agreement on an all-embracing political settlement. Many difficulties lie ahead, but a way out of the deadlock has been found.

The UN reaction to the Iraqi invasion and occupation of Kuwait has been even more important for the fate of peace. The unanimity displayed by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council in support of the principle that the world must be ruled by law clearly attests to a departure from the great powers' policy of cynical calculations pursued during the cold war.

The world is at a crossroads. There is now real hope of a positive, crucial UN role in resolving international conflicts.

The fate of the small defenseless state or the world's oil supplies are not the only stakes in the settlement of the Persian Gulf conflict. The UN Security Council under the leadership of its five permanent members has confirmed its devotion to the fundamental principles of the UN Charter. If the five members of the Security Council remain united, this will mean that the United Nations will be an effective mechanism for the maintenance of peace and stability on earth. The world will enter an unprecedented period in its historical development when stability will be maintained with a minimum level of arms and tension in relations between the great powers.

In the wake of this the great powers will be able to reduce the expenditure of huge resources on the development of increasingly sophisticated and costly types of weapons and will obtain the opportunity for more rapid economic development through increasing trade and capital investments. This will result in greater economic, social, and cultural progress in all countries.

Relations between our two countries are developing progressively. A few days ago the first sitting of the

Soviet-Singapore Joint Intergovernmental Mixed Economic Commission on the Development of Trade and Economic and Scientific and Technical Cooperation was held in Moscow, during which a corresponding protocol was signed. Other agreements are on the agenda. Bilateral relations will improve in other spheres as our economic cooperation deepens and matures. Over the last 14 months two delegations from Singapore have visited Moscow, one of which was led by the second deputy prime minister, the other by the speaker of the Singapore Parliament. Last month we were glad to offer a Moscow Soviet delegation our hospitality.

Bilateral trade and reciprocal capital investments will increase as the Soviet Union makes progress with its economic reforms and its economy heads increasingly toward the free market. The Soviet Union's participation in the IMF and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development is only a question of time. The USSR already has observer status in GATT and is in the near future to acquire full membership of this organization. When the Soviet Union has made the changes necessary in order for it to join the market economy, its vast potential will have a substantial effect on economic processes in the Pacific basin. When this occurs, Vladivostok will be as important to Singapore as Tokyo or Los Angeles.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to ask you to join me in my toast to his Excellency President Gorbachev, his Excellency the Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Mr. Ryzhkov, and Mrs. Ryzhkov, and also to the future prosperity and well-being of the Soviet Union.

The dinner took place in a friendly atmosphere.

Near East & South Asia

Soviet Workers in Iraq Plea for Help To Leave

AU0110143890 Paris AFP in English 1429 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Moscow, Oct 1 (AFP)—A group of about 300 Soviet workers building an oil installation in southern Iraq say they have nearly no food left and want to go home, a newspaper reported Monday.

ARGUMENTS AND FACTS, a weekly publication, published a letter signed by 48 of the 300 workers that purported to speak for all of them. The letter was delivered to the magazine by an unidentified messenger who apparently provided further details of the expatriates' living conditions.

Under the Title "Help us leave!" the letter called on the Soviet Supreme, or parliament, to intervene to help their return. The letter said the group had asked to be repatriated in early September, but since then, none of them has received an exit visa. They said had almost run out of food and were routinely turned away from Iraqi stalls and shops, according to the paper.

"The lives of the Soviet workers are often threatened," the paper said, often by "adolescents with AK47 assault rifles". Once, an Iraqi fired at an ambulance on the construction site, wounding the Soviet driver and causing one of his legs to be amputated.

"The site manager and the party leaders left long ago," the paper said.

About 2,500 Soviets have left Iraq since the start of the crisis, mostly women, children and workers whose contracts have expired. About 5,000 are still there, according to the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

Two weeks ago, Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze admitted that the evacuation was encountering "some difficulties", but he insisted there was "no basis for saying that anyone has been turned into a hostage."

Cairo Paper Cited on Saddam's 'Panic'

LD2909110690 Moscow TASS in English 1053 GMT 29 Sep 90

[By TASS reporter Mikhail Krutikhin: "Paper Says Saddam in Panic, Seeks Contacts With Israel"]

[Text] Cairo September 29 TASS—Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, fearing attempts on his life, is now hiding in shelters where only two advisers whom he trusts are admitted, the Cairo-based AKHBAR AL-YAWM newspaper says today, quoting sources in Baghdad.

His movements from bunker to bunker, scattered around the country, are veiled in secrecy. The newspaper quotes Western diplomats in Iraq as saying that Saddam is ready to cede 75 per cent of the occupied Kuwaiti territory in exchange for a United States commitment to save his life and power.

"The Iraqi president is trying to convey to the U.S. Administration his wish to 'defend' U.S. interests in the region," AKHBAR AL-YAWM says. It cites an Amman Radio report on Friday as saying that Saddam conveyed 'very tempting' proposals to Tel Aviv via Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda.

In his message to the Israeli leadership Saddam pledges not to attack Israel and to come to 'mutual understanding' on all issues of the Middle East conflict, the Amman Radio said. It also said Saddam proposed settling about 500,000 Palestinians from the Gaza Strip and the West Bank on Kuwaiti territory, noting that the move would relieve the Israeli Government of the "heavy economic burden".

TASS Assesses Situation in Saudi Arabia

LD2809221690 Moscow TASS in English 1942 GMT 28 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Viktor Lebedev: "Saudi Arabia: Precarious Peace"]

[Text] Dhahran, Saudi Arabia September 28 TASS—Eastern Saudi Arabia is inundated with military and refugees. Journalists from all over the world are arriving almost every day. The province has actually become a front-line area. Its administrative centre Dhahran is just over 300 kilometres away from the border with Kuwait which has been invaded by Iraq. Iraqi military menace looms over the entire Arab peninsula.

There is an Iraqi threat to a large petroleum company ARAMCO, belonging to the Saudi state. Military operations pose a fatal danger to the district. The security of the province and of the ARAMCO company is vital to the world economy.

A 200-seater airbus brought just several dozens of passengers to the only international airport in eastern Saudi Arabia. In the past the [words indistinct] oil dealers and tourists. There are a few such visitors now. Children of Kuwaiti refugees play in hotel lounges. Officers and men in olive camouflage fatigues and newspaper reporters walk the corridors.

Six hundred journalists were registered with the press centre of the Saudi Ministry of Information and of the Joint Military Command. More than half of the registered journalists have already left the area. But there are new arrivals. Those who intend to wait till the removal of the threat of the Iraqi aggression stay on. The developments are watched closely.

The press centre warns journalists about the need to comply with regulations. There are more than ten bans and restrictions on various types of information. Its circulation may jeopardise the life of the peaceful population and the security of cities and structures and may influence the course of military operations and the political processes.

A staffer of the Saudi Minister of Information and an Afro-American woman in a uniform work efficiently. They explain regulations to reporters and offer them to sign a statement obliging them to keep secrets. Journalists say that this influences their way of thinking and awakens them to the fact that there is almost an atmosphere of war in the country.

The local population senses the danger more actuely, although it has almost got accustomed to it over the past two months. Anxiety is not manifested openly. There are a few passers-by in the hot and dusty streets, but life proceeds normally. The population tolerates the presence of foreign troops but is looking forward to the time when the reasons for their stay are liquidated and the military menace from Iraq is removed.

A traditional soiree of poetry was held this week in al-Khubar, situated near Dhahran. The emir of the province, Prince Muhammad Bin Fahd, the son of the Saudi king, was present at the soiree. Even in this troubled time Saudi people retain dedication to poetry which played a huge role in the development of the Arabic culture, science and philosophy, also religious philosophy. The poets who participated in the soiree read verse expressing concern for peace.

Prince Muhammad Bin Fahd just returned from an inspection trip to the places where Saudi troops are deployed and inspected the functioning of centres for the training of volunteers. He said that foreign troops will leave Saudi Arabia after Iraqi troops are withdrawn from Kuwait. Expressing the hope that diplomatic efforts towards the settling of the crisis achieve positive results, he emphasised that the Saudi people will not budge an inch.

Resumed Soviet-Saudi Diplomatic Ties Examined

90UF0576A Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian No 39, 26 Sep 90 p 15

[Article by LITERATURNAYA GAZETA political observer Igor Belyayev including report on interview in Moscow with Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister, under the rubric "Crisis in the Persian Gulf: The Soviet Union and Saudi Arabia Reestablish Diplomatic Relations"; date not given: "Half a Century and Six Days: Three Meetings with Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal"]

[Text] The mood of Saddam Husayn, president of Iraq, has clearly deteriorated. Saudi Arabia has resumed diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, which for him is "sheer hell." I would recall that Iraqi tanks are poised for a dash to Riyadh and are just 10 km from the border. And suddenly such stunning news! In Baghdad it has been taken as an alarm signal. In this most acute crisis which has taken shape in the Persian Gulf region as a result of the occupation of Kuwait something has occurred that is forcing Saddam Husayn to think even more seriously about what is happening. Yes, around him. First the Americans and other soldiers appeared in Saudi Arabia, and now Riyadh has abruptly changed its attitude toward Moscow for the better. As he began the invasion of Kuwait, the Iraqi president simply could not have imagined this. It is with good reason that he has "suddenly" begun to speak about negotiations with King Fahd and has even expressed a readiness to leave Kuwait, albeit on his own terms....

Prince Saud al-Faysal, Saudi Arabia's foreign minister, came to Moscow to propose a resumption of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. The prince did this, convinced that he was doing something extremely necessary. Most importantly—opportunely. Primarily for the speediest solution of the military and political crisis in the Persian Gulf region....

I saw the limousines with the flags of Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union in the Lenin Hills. Sa'ud al-Faysal's residence was there. I was thinking that it had taken not quite 52 years for justice to triumph. And I recalled a literally thrilling episode, also connected with a diplomatic vehicle. Only in this vehicle rode Khakimov, agent and consul general of the Soviet Union in Jiddah (Hijaz). (footnote: Jiddah—a city on the Red Sea coast. At that time it was the residence of foreign missions) Oh, he was

an amazing man! He showed up there as Moscow's authorized representative in 1924. Two years later the situation on the Arabian peninsula began to change abruptly. The sultan of Najd, 'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, was advancing on Hijaz, one of the Arabian states. It was to be united with the Sultanate of Najd, and the foundations of the future Kingdom of Saudi Arabia were laid. And after 'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud had been elected ruler of Najd and Hijaz, Khakimov climbed into an open vehicle and delivered the official recognition of the Soviet Union to the camp of the new monarch, who had become king of Hijaz and sultan of Najd and adjoining provinces. This event occurred on 16 February 1926. The communication of the Soviet Government's recognition stated that it considered itself to be in a state of normal diplomatic relations with his majesty's government.

In his note of reply the king wrote: "His Excellency Agent and Consul General of the USSR. We have had the honor to have received your note 22 of 3 Sha'ban 1344 (16 February 1926) communicating recognition by the USSR Government of the new situation in Hejaz (Hijaz—I.B.), culminating in the fealty of the population of Hejaz to us as king of Hejaz and sultan of Najd and adjoining provinces, for which my government expresses to the USSR Government its gratitude and also its complete readiness for relations with the USSR Government and its subjects such as are characteristic of their friendly states.... The king of Hejaz and the sultan of Najd and adjoining provinces, 'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud. Done in Mecca on 6 Sha'ban 1344 (19 February 1926)."

I have quoted the extract from the text of this historic document with the sole purpose of showing that even at that time, in the first years following the establishment of Soviet power in the former Russian Empire, it, the new power, was respectful of political realities in the surrounding world. On the Arabian peninsula specifically. Consequently, the monarchy in the future Saudi Arabia and the figure of its ruler—King 'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud—were not regarded either then or afterward as some anachronism against whom it was allegedly necessary to struggle. The people's choice of future kingdom was respected by Moscow. And prior to the proclamation of the creation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 1932, what is more. And we should pay tribute to its first king, 'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, for his excellent understanding of the importance and significance of the "red counterweight," which was used against arrogant England, which had always endeavored to weaken it.

In 1932 Moscow was visited by Prince Faysal—the father of Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal—who became king of Saudi Arabia in 1964. The future monarch saw for himself the soviets' high respect for his country.

He was warmly received in Moscow. I will jump ahead a little. When I asked Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, who had been here before, whether he remembered this event, he replied:

"Of course, I was even presented with an invaluable gift—a documentary on my father's visit to the Soviet Union. I am, after all, continuing his mission today...."

There has been much talk and many opinions, even inventions, concerning the prewar history of Soviet-Saudi relations. The Soviet Union was the first to recognize the future Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Britain did the same, but after us. And all the years that he was on the throne 'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud did not forget this important historical fact. I refer to his skillful policy of resistance to Britain's pressure both on his country and on his throne. The king traded with us and maintained active political relations with Moscow. And the fact that in the wake of the establishment of Soviet-Saudi relations we, the Soviet state, were recognized by another Arabian monarch—Imam Yahya, the ruler of Yemen—was a logical continuation of what was begun by Khakimov.

The Soviet Union supported Saudi Arabia and Yemen in every possible way, observing mutual interests. I believe that this is worth recalling primarily to ensure that even now no entirely unexpected thoughts arise about Moscow manipulating relations with the Arabs in order to achieve its allegedly mercenary aims in the Near East.

In 1937 Khakimov was unexpectedly summoned to Moscow, where he was executed, a case against him having been cooked up, virtually on Stalin's instructions. All employees of the mission left Jiddah after him, realizing what threatened them. I shall not here venture to recount the fate of each. In 1938 the mission stood empty. And when those who had prepared Khakimov's indictment for political sins were settling accounts with him, the fate of our diplomatic mission in Saudi Arabia was forgotten. Yes, forgotten. Regrettably, but a fact! The loser was Moscow. But the Soviet Union did not break off diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia.

My interlocutor is a most experienced politician and enlightened individual. The present most serious crisis situation in the Persian Gulf region has shortened, as it were, the waiting time for all who wanted a restoration of diplomatic relations between Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union. Saddam Husayn had barely attacked Kuwait before our countries were instantly taking decisive steps towards one another.

From the opinions of Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal: The situation which has come about currently in the "hot" region as a result of the aggressive actions of Saddam Husayn cannot be allowed to stagnate; it is necessary to act assertively. And be ready to employ all possible means to achieve the goal—the capitulation of the Iraqi dictator. Any procrastination will be fatal!

It is perfectly obvious also that as the requisite actions are delayed, the split in the Arab world will intensify. Remember that the Iraqi Air Force has obtained refuge in Yemen, and Iraqi missiles, in Sudan. Saddam Husayn's endeavor to use the Palestinian problem for his purposes is speculation, the most dangerous speculation.

With a continuation of the Iraqi aggression the attention of the world, of all mankind, to the Palestinian problem could die.

What has been said by no means signifies that Saudi Arabia wishes the destruction of Iraq. No! What we want, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said, is for Iraq to emerge from the impasse, but....

My interlocutor's reservation is understandable, I believe. We need to struggle actively against the Iraqi aggression. After all, 2,800 Iraqi tanks are on the border with or close by Saudi Arabia....

Of course—and this is now clear to all—Saddam Husayn will be prepared to leave Kuwait only as the result of the decisiveness of those who are confronting Iraq's aggression. Only then will he feel that he has no other way out.

From the opinions of Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal: If all that is happening in the Persian Gulf becomes deeply rooted, fighting the aggression will be considerably more difficult....

What kind of relations will those between Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union be? Answering this question, Prince Saud al-Faysal emphasized particularly that they have a good future. It is a question of economic relations. If the Soviet Union requires credit, it will get it. Particular significance is attached to the political interaction of our countries. And this under conditions where dreadful danger threatens primarily Saudi Arabia!

In addition, my interlocutor said, our countries are geographically close. We are practically neighbors.

What was, perhaps, most impressive was the Saudi guest's appeal for cooperation between the cultures of the Soviet Union and Saudi Arabia. Sa'ud al-Faysal invited our well-known writers and poets Rimma Kazakova, Rasul Gamzatov, Sergey Mikhalkov, and others and discussed with them all the nuances of the thoughts he had expressed.

From the opinions of Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal: We hope that relations between our countries will encompass the culture of our peoples also. I consider culture the most important component of interstate relations. Attention to our cultural relations will be paramount. We now intend to implement perestroyka in the Arab world. Your perestroyka and ours will find points of contact. We will begin a rapprochement of our cultures. I assure you that we will be active participants in this process. It is not for nothing that all our writers and poets wish to go to the Soviet Union. After all, historic situations penetrate people's hearts....

What our guest said is worth pondering. I am convinced that the mere fact of the appeal to culture as a most important factor of international relations is worth much....

[Belyayev] Tell me, your highness, will the resumption of diplomatic relations between Saudi Arabia bring a settlement in Afghanistan closer? [question as published]

[al-Faysal] I am convinced it will. It is now not only a question of elections with free voice being conducted in Afghanistan. Consultations between our countries on Afghan problems are possible and would, most likely, be useful. We would greatly like there to be excellent relations between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. We see this as a guarantee of peace in this part of the world....[al-Faysal ends]

A particular question put to Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal concerned the positive influence of the restoration of diplomatic relations on the mood of Soviet Muslims. My interlocutor emphasized specially that the influence of these relations on them would be positive. After all, the true Muslim is first and foremost a good citizen of his country, in this case, the Soviet Union....

[Belyayev] The final question: It is not your first time in the Soviet Union?

[al-Faysal] Third. I have spent six days in your country altogether. On three visits to Moscow....

As we can see, the foreign minister of Saudi Arabia has enviable "productivity."

I inquired of his chief of protocol:

"When will your embassy be seen in Moscow?"

"There is no precise date as yet, but soon...."

So, after a half-century's separation, lightning rapprochement. And we were helped, however strange it may seem, by Saddam Husayn....

Effects of Gulf Crisis on Palestinians Viewed

LD2809174790 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Sergey Yevgenyev commentary]

[Text] The news agencies have reported from Saudi Arabia that Sa'd Abu-Mazin, Yasir 'Arafat's adviser for religious affairs, who is currently there, has condemned the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait and has pointed out that it has harmed the Arab nation, primarily the Palestinian cause. Yasir 'Arafat's adviser stated that Saddam Husayn has deceived the Palestinians in the occupied territories, as he promised to start the struggle for the liberation of Jerusalem, but what happened is that he only occupied Kuwait. Commenting on that, Sergey Yevgenyev says:

The statement of the Palestinian official needs no explanation. The principle issue, in my opinion, is that it is difficult not to agree with it for the following reason. In reviewing the past 20 years we have to admit that Iraq was effectively supporting the PLO. The Palestinians were receiving great financial aid from Baghdad. There

was also a PLO residence in Baghdad. In Iraq there were bases for a number of Palestinian patriotic fronts. Finally, there are now several hundred thousand Palestinians in Iraq who found not only shelter but also work there. In the eyes of the Palestinian people Iraq seemed a loyal ally and friend. Iraq's policy toward Israel and the United States and its repeated statements calling for support for the struggle of the Palestinian people without concessions played a major role in conveying this image.

In the beginning the Iraqi-Kuwaiti conflict erupted as a political one, then it became a military one. Iraq interfered in Kuwait and declared its annexation. In the first stage the Palestinian leadership adopted several urgent steps toward a political settlement of the conflict between Iraq and Kuwait, but in the second stage it was as shocked as the whole Arab world was.

At that time when its actions met with wide international condemnation, Baghdad threw its trump card on the table. Saddam Husayn announced that he would agree to withdraw from Kuwait when Israel withdraws from the Palestinian territories. That initiative, if we could call it that, seems very exciting on the surface, because it looks as if Iraq is defending the Palestinians.

Baghdad's statement created a euphoria of enthusiasm and hopes in the occupied territories. People began to name their new-born babies Saddam Husayn. However, it quickly became clear that there was no basis for the celebrations. The international community, including the Arab countries, understood that the blatant violation of international law, that is, the occupation of Kuwait and the refusal to withdraw, will not and cannot ever lead to righting the other wrongs. The Palestinians themselves understood that.

Here I could prove this by referring to what Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, member of the PLO Executive Committee, said a few days ago at a Moscow news conference. The Palestinian official said in particular that the Palestinians oppose the automatic combining of the two conflicts. Every day it becomes clearer that the Iraqi aggression has harmed the Palestinian struggle, and that Israel has acquired additional propaganda winning cards and has asked for additional amounts of modern U.S. weapons. Not to mention that when we read the news of the occupied territories we notice that Tel Aviv has exploited the current situation by escalating the anti-Palestinian measures.

In concluding his commentary, Sergey Yevgenyev points out that this leads to more victims and moral and financial losses for the Palestinian people.

Moscow Delegation Meets Afghan President on Trade

LD2809225190 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 28 Sep 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] This report on a visit to Kabul by a delegation from the Moscow Soviet of People's Deputies shows that, where a sensible approach is taken to foreign economic links, it is possible to solve in large degree our own domestic market problems:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent A. Shkirando] During talks with Kabul's municipal leaders and business circles, the establishment of mutually beneficial bilateral links was discussed. The main areas of cooperation are set out in the agreements signed.

[Yu. B. Solomatin, head of delegation] We are setting up a business corporation association linking Moscow and Kabul involving, on the Afghan side, private sector merchants and, on the Moscow side, the Chief Trade Directorate of the city of Moscow and the Mossovet Commissions on the Consumer Market and Foreign Economic Links. We will seek to ease the pressure on Moscow's consumer market by importing goods from Afghanistan. There are many opportunities here for exporting goods to Moscow. This is currently being hindered by various barriers and our department instructions, but I think that, as events unfold, these constraints will be gradually removed, especially if we adopt the 500 day program.

[Shkirando] The Mossovet delegation was received by Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan. He said the example set by Moscow and Kabul could be followed by other towns in the two countries, particularly those near the border which are also linked by common historic and cultural traditions.

The Afghan president announced that he was willing to resume gas deliveries to our country and to increase deliveries of hides, dried fruits, and handicrafts substantially. It would be nice to think that there will be a response to this offer from our southern neighbor by businesslike and enterprising people in other Soviet towns as well. [end recording]

Afghan Speaker Visits Moscow, Discusses Ties

PM3009192790 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Sep 90 Second Edition p 5

[Interview with Dr. Mahmud Habibi, chairman of the Afghan Senate, by correspondent V. Lisin in Moscow under the heading "Visit to Russia"; date not given]

[Text] An Afghan National Council delegation is in Moscow at the invitation of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet. It is headed by Dr. Mahmud Habibi, chairman of the Afghan Senate. This is the first parliamentary delegation from abroad to be received by the parliament of sovereign Russia.

Our correspondent met Dr. M. Habibi and asked him to talk about the purpose of the Afghan delegation's visit to Moscow.

[Habibi] First of all, we have brought a personal message from our President Najibullah for B.N. Yeltsin, chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet. Second, in view of the changes taking place in our countries, we would like to build closer contacts with Russia in various aspects of interstate relations. That is why our delegation includes the chairmen of various parliamentary committees which reflect the broadest possible range of public opinion in Afghanistan.

[Lisin] The question of new forms of cooperation with other states, including Afghanistan, has been broadly discussed in our country recently....

[Habibi] We are aware of that. And we are prepared to discuss any proposals. Afghanistan is not such a poor country. We could come up with some proposals of our own. For example, we could cooperate to our mutual benefit in the agro-industrial complex and in the use of natural resources.... In other words, we are ready to give our economic relations new substance.

However, as I am sure you understand, this is a rather long, difficult process. Our country's economy has been greatly undermined by the war forced upon us. It will take a year or two to stabilize it. So we need a certain period of time—a kind of transitional period—when the economic ties we have built with the Soviet Union will be a considerable factor in determining Afghanistan's advance along the path of progress.

[Lisin] But the economy is largely determined by politics and by the question of when peace will come to Afghanistan....

[Habibi] Yes, the national reconciliation policy is now the most important thing for us. We feel that we are doing quite a lot in this respect. For example, more than 30 proposals have been made to the opposition with the purpose of achieving consolidation on this basis. It is not our fault, however, that the opposition's ambitions are being permanently fired from abroad. Although I must say that even here we have achieved appreciable success: The field commanders, that is, those operating directly in Afghan territory, have ended the "hot" war—they no longer carry out active combat operations against government troops.

This allows us to hope that our plan to build a democratic Afghanistan is realistic. The plan is simple: First reach a truce, so that we can hold new elections. But only with the participation of observers from other countries and only under the UN aegis, so that no one has any doubts that the elections have been held on a democratic basis.

This plan does not suit all the opposition leaders. The shelling of Kabul, which we believe is being carried out by people who enter the country from Pakistani territory, is primarily intended to maintain constant tension. I will repeat once again, however, that we believe democratic elections will be held in our country nevertheless. Perhaps even this year.

[Lisin] We feel for the young Soviets still suffering torment in captivity. What stand does your republic's leadership take in this respect?

[Habibi] Securing the release of prisoners of war is a very difficult, complex process. But Soviet people can be sure that we have done, are doing, and will continue to do everything possible to ensure that your sons are returned home as quickly as possible. Our stand is firm and unequivocal in this respect.

Moscow Sees Iran-UK Ties as 'Positive Reality'

NC2809203190 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Sergey Viktorov commentary from "The World Today"]

[Text] Iran and Britain decided on 27 September to reestablish diplomatic relations. This was stated simultaneously by Iran's permanent representative at the United Nations and the British Foreign Office in London in a brief statement saying that the two countries are reestablishing diplomatic relations on the basis of mutual respect and that they will open their embassies in London and in Tehran within one month. Radio Moscow analyst Sergey Viktorov writes on this:

Dear listeners: As you know, Iran severed its diplomatic relations with Great Britain about one and one-half years ago following the late Imam Khomeyni's decree on the British author of "The Satanic Verses," Salman Rushdie. Even after Imam Khomeyni's death, Iran's officials repeatedly announced that his decree was irreversible. However, facts show that the extraordinary (?turn) in the regional situation has had a great effect on the two sides' positions on this conflict.

Great Britain took the first step toward reconciliation. British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd stated that his country regrets the fact that Islam was insulted. Immediately after the Iraqi Armed Forces' aggression against Kuwait, Iran's National Security Council announced that the Rushdie affair was no longer an obstacle in the reestablishment of diplomatic relations with Great Britain.

The two countries' statement on the reestablishment of diplomatic relations marked the logical end to this (?problem). But news agencies point out that the situation concerning three problems in Iranian-British relations is still not clear. The first problem is on how the decree on Salman Rushdie should be resolved. It is true that the author said in a London TV interview that he did not intend to insult or to hurt anyone. Salman Rushdie pointed out that his life has been very difficult throughout this period and that he has been sufficiently punished.

The second problem is the fate of the three British hostages who are being held by pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon, although this problem is being clarified. The

representatives of these groups have stated that progress has been achieved in the talks on the hostages. Thus, there are hopes that they will be released soon.

The third problem is the fate of a British businessman who is in an Iranian prison on charges of spying. It is not yet clear what stand the Iranian officials will adopt on this. But JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI writes that London should not expect a review of this issue.

Whatever the case may be, the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Iran and Great Britain is undoubtedly a positive reality. Iran's other steps and, first and foremost, its harsh stand on Iraq's aggression against Kuwait, show that Iran intends to act as a member with equal rights of the world community.

Moscow Comments on 'Holy Defense Week' in Iran

NC2909132390 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Persian to Iran 1530 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Certain steps have been taken in Iran to mark Holy Defense Week which commemorates the anniversary on 22 September of the Iraqi forces' aggression on Khuzestan.

These kinds of weeks have been celebrated for the past few years, intended to mobilize the people to combat the danger from Iraq. Today, these weeks have lost their past significance. Kuwait, not Iran is the victim of Iraqi aggression. In addition, the international punitive sanctions in response to Iraqi adventurism have made Baghdad extraordinarily tolerant of Iran's demands.

Iraq has officially recognized the Algiers Accord—which sets the boundary at the deepest point in the Shatt al-'Arab, or the Arvand River, as the boundary between Iran and Iraq—and has withdrawn its forces from Iranian territory, and agreed to the subsequent exchange of POW's. All of this indicates fundamental progress in resolving the Iran-Iraq conflict. However, in the wake of foiling Iraq's expansionism, what does Iran need to defend itself from? Is not the convening of a Holy Defense Week under the circumstances merely expedient on the part of the Iranian officials?

Naturally the Iranian people, who are fed up with warmongering policies, have raised these questions. However the innovators of such actions are not planning to end such policies. They justify the Holy Defense Week on the basis of the increasing U.S. threat. Tehran considers President Bush's decision to send forces to Saudi Arabia as proof of such a danger.

In Iranian magazines, much is being written about the need for the defense of Islamic sacred sites on Saudi Arabian soil. The lack of progress on the issue of returning the Iranian assets in U.S. banks is being mentioned. Under such conditions, it is not a coincidence that demonstrations should be held with much fanfare with the slogans of "Death to America!" at the conclusion of Holy Defense Week.

However, the unresolved issue of Iranian-American ties continues to be a bete noire for the Iranians' dread of the United States, but anti-U.S. clamor should not be permitted to overshadow the actual reasons for the deterioration of the situation in the Persian Gulf, that is, the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait. It is natural that it angers the Iranians. The withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait would have cleared up the situation. It would have deprived the Pentagon of a pretext to increase its naval and military might in the Persian Gulf, especially since the Iran-Iraq dispute was entering its final stages.

It would have been difficult for the U.S. military presence to justify the indifference of most of the Iranian circles to the international sanctions against Iraq. One should thus keep in mind that Holy Defense Week was an instrument in the hands of these circles to divert the people from a struggle for democratic developments.

With the termination of the Iran-Iraq war, the issue of bringing about democratic developments came to the forefront of the most outstanding problems of the country. Persecution of those who subscribe to different schools of thought continues. Thousands of patriots are in dungeons. Without democratization, the growth of the country by means of economic and social progress is impossible.

East Europe

Moscow Views Renewed Soviet-Albanian Ties

AU2809181490 Moscow in Albanian to Albania 1500 GMT 28 Sep 90

[From "The World Today"]

[Text] As is known, a meeting between Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, and Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Presidential Council and minister of foreign affairs of the Soviet Union, took place in New York yesterday. Both are taking part in the proceedings of the 45th session of the UN General Assembly. Our commentator Boris Vladimirov writes:

This meeting gives new content to Soviet-Albanian relations. The fact that it took place soon after the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries has, it seems to me, a special meaning. The talk in New York will no doubt influence the development and strengthening of cooperation between the Soviet Union and Albania, and the two's joint cooperation in the international arena. From this point of view, one may quite rightly say that the first contact at such a high official level is a natural consequence of the mutual aim of the Soviet Union and Albania to advance toward each other. Without exaggeration, we may say today that the two states aim at mutually beneficial cooperation between our countries in various fields. Both sides also

showed reciprocal interest in the field of economic and trade ties during the bilateral talks which took place in Moscow in August. As is known, they ended in an agreement to recommence direct bilateral trade. At the same time, it is worth mentioning that the road toward this was paved by joint efforts during recent years. It should also be pointed out that trade used to be carried out via third countries. Now talks are also being conducted about technical cooperation, including the modernization and construction of industrial plant in Albania.

Ways are also being studied to reestablish cultural and humanitarian contacts. The Soviet Union is resolutely in favor of reciprocally beneficial ties with Albania with clear prospects. The political, social, and economic changes in our countries are creating favorable conditions to put these relations on a stable and diverse footing. The process of normalizing Soviet-Albanian relations is itself organically tied with the deep positive changes taking place in world politics. However, the two countries themselves are showing a desire to take determined steps toward each other.

There are few Soviet people (?who would argue with) the Soviet journalists who visited Albania last month, and who pointed out that, despite the long period of the artificial breach in the relations between the peoples of our countries, the Albanian people have preserved their respect and feelings of deep sympathy and friendship for the Soviet Union. The Soviets nourish the same feelings toward Albania, for its past and present, and its rich national traditions. We know that the Albanian people's interest in Russian and Soviet literature, history, culture, and the successes of Soviet science and technology, and their desire to study the Russian language, has not died out. The threads of the ties of friendship and respect which bind us are a secure base for affirmation and cooperation. Now that formal obstacles have been removed, new horizons opened up for a new qualitative dimension to relations between our two countries.

In conclusion, something else I would wish to point out in connection with the New York meeting involves the question of the further important factor of high-level personal contacts. An understanding has been reached regarding the desirability of the Soviet and Albanian foreign ministers' exchanging visits soon. In our era, personal contacts have become a familiar and universal element of world politics. They exert a considerable influence on strengthening trust between states. The conversation between Comrade Ramiz Alia and Eduard Shevardnadze will no doubt help to strengthen understanding and will lay sound foundations for the development of such contacts in the future.

TASS Voices Optimism on Albanian Relations

LD2809233790 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1428 GMT 28 Sep 90

[By TASS political observer Gennadiy Petrov]

[Text] Moscow, 28 Sep (TASS)—The New York meeting between USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Albanian Foreign Minister Reiz Malile has attracted the attention of observers, even though the issues it discussed have not been revealed to journalists.

The very fact of a first dialogue between the heads of the diplomatic departments after the restoration of relations between the two countries is a positive event. Let me recall that this meeting was preceded by the visit to Moscow—the first in three decades—of an Albanian delegation, headed by Kostandin Hoxha, deputy minister of foreign trade. As a result of talks with Soviet officials an accord was reached to renew economic cooperation and the direct goods exchange this year.

Diplomatic relations between the USSR and Albania were normalized this July, but even in the months since then a good deal has been done, as we can see. This is understandable. Moscow and Tirana are evidently striving to make up for lost time of a 30-year break in bilateral relations, from which the peoples of the two countries in no way come off as winners.

It is important that Soviet-Albanian relations are not developing on empty soil. Some old treaties and agreements were, fortunately, not denounced, such as the 1958 Treaty on Trade and Navigation between the USSR and Albania. Today, these documents serve as a good basis for creating the foundation of a new phase in cooperation. Moreover, enterprises built with the cooperation of the Soviet Union in the fifties are still operating in Albania today. They are now in need of modernization.

All the same, the most important thing, in my opinion, that would ensure mutually beneficial and effective cooperation according to principles of sovereignty and equal rights, are the long-standing traditions of Soviet-Albanian friendship. To this day, for instance, many Albanians who studied in higher educational establishments in the USSR have a good knowledge of Russian. In the Soviet Union, too, there are people who studied Albanian, who know the literature and culture of that Balkan country. It is they who, along with the diplomats, workers in commerce, and technical specialists, should actively rebuild the bridges between the two countries, which were destroyed by ideological divergence of opinion in what is now the far off year of 1961.

Bulgarian Premier 'Satisfied' With Moscow Talks

LD2809135290 Moscow TASS in English 1647 GMT 28 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Igor Mishakin]

[Text] Sofia September 28 TASS—Bulgarian Prime Minister Andrey Lukanov told Bulgarian reporters upon his return from Moscow that he was satisfied with his visit to the USSR. He said there are all the prerequisites for preserving relations with the Soviet Union in their main

aspects, and these relations are vitally important to Bulgaria. There is no alternative to them under the present conditions, he said.

Lukanov said he hoped that on the strength of negotiations held the supplies of oils to Bulgaria will stabilise in the months ahead and this will avert serious difficulties in the autumn and winter period.

He said it stands to reason that obligations should be fulfilled so that arrangements be implemented. And the shortfall in the implementation of agreements now amounts to nearly 500 million leva.

Lukanov said an agreement was reached on the future of economic relations between Bulgaria and the USSR. He said it is absolutely clear that the transition to the use of convertible currency in the settlement of accounts will be exceedingly difficult, particularly for Bulgaria. The artificially created system of prices resulted in overpayment of approximately 1.5-2 billion leva. Bulgaria will now be striving to create such conditions for banking that will make it possible to settle bills with taking into account the preservation of approximate balance of an overall trade turnover.

Lukanov said that during the negotiations the Soviet leaders emphasised that special relations between the Soviet Union and Bulgaria are preserved. He believes this means that the Soviet Union will be taking into account the earlier existing close ties between the two countries in every area and the profound traditions of friendship which exist outside any party preferences, as well as the fact that the disruption of traditional ties will cause more acute problems for the Bulgarian economy than for some other East European countries.

Yazov Greets Bulgarian Minister on Army Anniversary

PM3009194990 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Sep 90 First Edition p 1

[Greetings message from USSR Defense Minister Yazov to Bulgarian Defense Minister Colonel General Yordan Mutafichiev; date not given]

[Text] To Colonel General Yordan Mutafchiev, minister of national defense of the People's Republic of Bulgaria:

Personally and on behalf of the USSR Armed Forces, I send to you and to all Bulgarian servicemen cordial congratulations and good wishes on the 46th anniversary of the Bulgarian People's Army.

We express confidence that in the course of the democratic processes in our friendly countries Soviet-Bulgarian military cooperation will be renewed and improved in every possible way in the name of strengthening peace and stability in Europe.

[Signed] Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Yazov, USSR minister of defense

Hungarian President Goncz Continues Visit

Kiev Consular Ties Established

LD2709101190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0900 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Arpad Goncz has gone to Kiev. The Hungarian president was invited there by Leonid Kravchuk, president of the Republic of the Ukraine.

The two sides will issue a joint communique about the future of developing links. A summation of their views on national minorities will be published in a statement. It is a sign of the development of Hungarian-Ukrainian dialogue that the two states are to establish consular relations. By doing so, Hungary will undertake a pioneering role in transforming relations with one of the Soviet republics.

According to preliminary information, the Ukrainian leadership has received with understanding the Hungarian request asking for mutual attendance at the graves of soldiers who died in World War II.

Meets Writers, Politicians

LD2809141390 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Report by correspondent Gabor Izbeki on Hungarian President Arpad Goncz's meeting with writers and politicians in Kiev on 28 September—recorded]

[Text] The president of the Hungarian Republic gave a detailed account of the experiences of the change in the Hungarian regime, and drew attention to the need to refrain from antisemitism and extremist nationalism, because these things can greatly poision public life. The Ukrainian politicians said this struggle is included in their official programs and that they are acquainted with the harm caused by nationalism, since they are the victims of Great Russia chauvinism. The leaders of the Writers' Union and the opposition, like today's state leaders, would welcome the soonest possible establishment of Hungarian-Ukrainian diplomatic relations. They promise to guarantee the nationality and cultural rights of the Magyar minority of Sub-Carpathia.

Naturally, the special political role of East European writers came up at this meeting as well. In virtually every country writers are in key state positions, something which both sides consider as very significant.

Arpad Goncz met the small Magyar colony. He gave a detailed briefing on the problems in Hungarian political life, and background on the reports of tension, which have reached even here.

The special presidential plane will soon be leaving for Uzhgorod, where Arpad Goncz will meet representatives of the 200,000 members of Magyardom. On Saturday afternoon he will inaugurate the statue of Sandor Petoefi.

Ends Visit

LD2909191690 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] The official visit by Hungarian President Arpad Goncz to the Ukraine has ended. He took part in the ceremony to unveil the monument to Sandor Petoefi, an outstanding Hungarian poet and publicist, in Uzhgorod. The guest had a talk in the Transcarpathian Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies. He was briefed on the history and major trends in the development of the area. Representatives of over 40 nationalities live here, including 156,000 Hungarians. There are about 100 schools teaching in Hungarian in Transcarpathian Oblast. Newspapers and books are published in Hungarian and some local television and radio programs are transmitted in it. There is a department of Hungarian philology at Uzhgorod University. The president visited the Center for Hungarian Studies for coordinating the research in this branch of science, the study of the language, literature, history, and ethnography of the Hungarian population of Transcarpathia. He also visited Beregovskiy Rayon, where the majority of the population are Hungarians.

Arpad Goncz left Uzhgorod for home this evening.

Soviet Troops Leave Crossing Points in Berlin

LD3009161790 Hamburg DPA in German 1514 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (DPA)—The Soviet control posts responsible for allied military traffic in Berlin and Helmstedt were withdrawn today. Allied circles say that the Soviets have left the former GDR border crossing points Drewitz and Glienicker Bruecke. This has been confirmed by West Berlin police. [passage omitted]

GDR Plans To Expel Foreign Workers Reported

PM0110092990 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 5

[Dispatch by V. Lapskiy: "No Longer Needed"]

[Text] Berlin—About 90,000 foreign workers must soon leave the GDR, it has been announced in Berlin. This decision was made in Bonn, in the FRG Ministry of the Interior. The foreigners will be dispatched from East Germany as the labor agreements concluded with them expire.

Vietnamese make up the largest number of foreigners in the GDR—approximately 54,000—and they are followed by Mozambicans—14,000—and Angolans—9,000—while the rest are Poles and Cubans. They make up about 0.5 percent of the GDR population. The majority work here on the basis of intergovernment agreements which set a term of four to five years for their stay.

In the past the invitation to foreign workers to work in the GDR was accompanied by noisy propaganda campaigns and was presented as an act of international solidarity and aid in training specialists. Alas, in life everything looked different. The foreigners received the most unprestigious or unhealthiest work. The social conditions for their stay in the GDR were also harsh. Thus, for instance, over five years Vietnamese and Africans had the right to fly home on leave only twice, they were not allowed to take their families with them, and pregnant women were sent home immediately.

Nor can it be said that the local inhabitants' attitude toward them was cordial. Conflicts frequently arose and in Berlin now you quite often see written on house walls: "Foreigners get out!" "Germany for the Germans" and so forth.

With the GDR's transition to a market economy there has been an increase in hostel charges. Before 1 July foreigners paid just 30 GDR marks for a place in a room for three people. Everyone in the GDR has felt the cost of living rise but the foreign workers in particular. It is not surprising that they do additional work but there is also a desire to speculate.

Back in May the local authorities, worried by the increase in unemployment among Germans, told the governments of the countries involved that they were altering the clauses of the agreements on the "import" of manpower. Understandably, this caused no delight in Hanoi, Maputo, or the other capitals. There were protests, but Berlin was unbending: In the future foreign workers will not be needed. As a group they are displaying no burning desire to return home, so the present decision is couched in tough terms and provides for resolute measures. But benefits are provided for those who leave: In particular they will receive 3,000 marks in ready cash. (As a rule the money will be issued on the day they fly out at Schoenefeld airport). Bonn is earmarking 200 million marks for the entire program to evacuate the foreign workers from East Germany. According to the decision, after their labor contracts expire foreign workers have the right to stay in Germany for no more than three months.

West Europe

Nishanov, Cypriot President Hold Talks

LD3009124390 Moscow TASS in English 1117 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Nicosia September 30 TASS—Rafik Nishanov, chairman of the Council of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, who came here to attend celebrations on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the independence of Cyprus, was received by Cyprus President Yeoryios Vasilious on Saturday.

During a friendly conversation they discussed the state and prospects of the development of bilateral cooperation and some international problems, including the Cyprus problem. Vasiliou praised Soviet-Cyprus relations and expressed hope that his visit to the Soviet Union, planned for the beginning of 1991, would become a landmark on the way of their consolidation. The head of the Republic of Cyprus expressed satisfaction over the Soviet Union's consistent stand on the problem of Cyprus settlement.

Touching upon the processes taking place in the Soviet Union, Vasiliou welcomed perestroyka. He believes that the difficulties the Soviet people are living through are a temporary phenomenon.

Soviet Coal Mines on Norwegian Islands To Close

PM2809151490 Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 21 Sep 90 p 11

[Article by Trygve Monsen: "Soviet Union Will Abandon Its Mines on Spitsbergen"]

[Text] Oslo—Soviet security policy is being reexamined—on Spitsbergen, too. Barentsburg and Pyramiden—which swallow up large amounts of money—in the northern island group close to the North Pole are being looked at in the context of the new relationship between East and West.

The news that the Russians are no longer as interested in maintaining the two isolated mining communities on Spitsbergen was surprisingly revealed when the NRK [Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation] correspondent in Moscow last Wednesday [19 September] interviewed a member of the Russian national assembly [as published].

The reason for the Soviet presence is that, along with 24 other countries, the Soviet Union signed the Spitsbergen Treaty in 1920. This gives Norway sovereignty over the island group, but all 25 signatories are permitted to engage freely in industrial activities on Spitsbergen.

The Soviet presence has for decades marked its interest in a very sensitive area for the superpowers. Now the situation in the two mining communities is slowly being normalized.

Few people know how many billion of rubles have been invested in the coal mines at Barentsburg and Pyramiden. There are twice as many Russians [as Norwegians] living on Spitsbergen, but they are only able to produce 500,000 tonnes of coal a year, whereas the Norwegians produce 350,000 tonnes.

Swedish Defense Minister Ends Visit

LD2909142190 Moscow TASS in English 1406 GMT 29 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Anna Shcherbakova]

[Text] Leningrad September 29 TASS—Swedish Defence Minister Roine Carlsson today continued to familiarise himself with Leningrad. He visited the legendary cruiser Aurora, travelled on a motor-boat along the Neva River and toured the palaces and parks in Pushkin, a suburb of Leningrad.

In the evening, Carlsson left for home. At the airport, he was seen off by Soviet Deputy Defence Minister Viktor Yermakov, Leningrad military district commander Viktor Samsonov and other officials.

Govorov Ends Switzerland Visit, Signs Agreement

LD2909170690 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1020 GMT 29 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Kozlov]

[Text] Berne, 29 Sep (TASS)—The visit to Switzerland by Army General V.L. Govorov, USSR Chief of Civil Defense and USSR Deputy Defense Minister, has ended. During his visit he was received by K. Villiger, chief of Switzerland's Department of the Military, and visited a number of the country's military bases.

The text of the Soviet-Swiss intergovernmental agreement on cooperation in the event of natural disasters and major accidents has been agreed on and it is proposed to sign it in October this year. The agreement provides for the rendering of mutual aid, the exchange of experiences and information of a scientific nature, exchanges of specialists, and also the organization of courses for training rescue workers.

Latin America & Caribbean

Honduras Establishes Relations With Soviet Union

LD0110040490 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0312 GMT 1 Oct 90

[By TASS correspondents N. Maslov, E. Menkes, and G. Shmelev]

[Text] UN, 1 Oct (TASS)—Diplomatic relations have been established between the USSR and Honduras. This was announced in a joint communique signed by USSR Foreign Minister E. Shevardnadze and Honduran Foreign Minister M. Carias on Sunday. Honduran President R. Callejas attended the signing ceremony. During his conversation with E. Shevardnadze, questions of the increasing UN influence in settling international conflicts, and prospects for the development of relations between the two countries were discussed.

Shevardnadze Holds Talks With Cuba's Malmierca

LD2909120890 Moscow TASS in English 1155 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] New York September 29 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca.

During the discussion of the situation in the Gulf, the ministers noted the coincidence of the principled assessments of Iraq's action and the need to work for a peaceful political solution, but Malmierca expressed apprehension that the hasty adoption by the U.N. Security Council of several resolutions could prove counterproductive.

In a frank atmosphere, the ministers exchanged information about the socio-economic situation in their countries and discussed the state of Soviet-Cuban economic cooperation, in which serious difficulties have emerged lately. It was pointed out that a substantive and authoritative review of the entire range of related issues was overdue.

The ministers discussed the situation in Central America and the Caribbean.

Castro Pledges Loyalty to Socialism

LD2909084690 Moscow TASS in English 0822 GMT 29 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondents Andrey Borodin, Sergey Kutikov, and Sergey Staroselskiy]

[Text] Havana September 29 TASS—Cuba will continue to build socialism whatever happens, Cuban leader Fidel Castro said on Friday [28 September].

He was speaking at a meeting in Havana's Karl Marx Theatre on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the formation of "Revolution Defence Committees".

Castro said Cuba "is now living through a special period, amid profound changes in the world. The traditional ties between Cuba and East European countries are being destroyed."

The Cuban leader mentioned the issue of supplies of oil and other "vital" products from the Soviet Union to Cuba.

He said Cuba was looking for "internal reserves to compensate, fully or partially, for the unfilfilled external commitments".

Speaking about social problems, Castro said "no person in Cuba will be left without a job or an allowance, as happens in capitalist countries or in countries that until recently were described as socialist".

Supreme Soviet

Debate Resumes on Freedom of Conscience Bill 1 Oct

LD0110075790 Moscow TASS in English 0751 GMT 1 Oct 90

[By TASS correspondent Lev Aksenov, Boris Zverev and Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow October 1 TASS—The Soviet Parliament began the fourth week of its autumn session in the Kremlin today with the second reading of the bill on "freedom of conscience and religious organisations".

The bill was approved in principle at its previous session last Wednesday.

Lawmakers have approved only half of the bill's 31 articles. In addition, the two chambers of the parliament disagreed on three articles and decided to form a conciliatory commission that will report on its work later today.

The bill honours Soviet international human rights commitments and drew a positive response from several religious figures who helped prepare it.

Lukyanov Chairs Presidium Session 28 Sep

LD2809174690 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1634 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow, 28 Sep (TASS)—A session of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet was held in the Kremlin today under the chairmanship of Anatoliy Lukyanov. The session discussed the progress of work by the Supreme Soviet committee and the standing commissions of the chambers on the draft bills connected with the transfer to a regulated market economy. The Presidium determined the time-scale for submitting the draft laws for examination by the USSR Supreme Soviet along with the conclusions of the committee and commissions on these drafts. The Presidium mapped out measures designed to step up work linked to the participation of the activities of the USSR Supreme Soviet by groups, uniting deputies according to professional, territorial, party political, and other allegiances. There is a total of 10 such groups operating within the USSR Supreme Soviet at present. The Presidium examined a statement from the 25th Congress of the trade union of railway transport and transport construction workers. A decision was made to hand the document to the commission of the Council of the Union for Transport, Communications, and Information Technology and to the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee for Legislation. Also discussed were improvement of the efficiency of work by the USSR Supreme Soviet, its committees, and the standing commissions of the chambers.

Supreme Soviet Earthquake Appeal Published

PM2809135590 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 1

[Text of "USSR Supreme Soviet Appeal"]

[Text] Moscow, Kremlin, 26 September 1990—Twice this year—in June and August—fraternal Kazakhstan has been subjected to catastrophic force seven to eight earthquakes. Entire villages at the epicenter of the earthquakes were reduced to ruins. According to the preliminary assessment, the expense on restoration work is in excess of 1 billion rubles.

The Supreme Soviet, president, and government of the republic and the soviet organs of East Kazakhstan and Semipalatinsk oblasts are doing everything possible to ease people's suffering. A government commission has been created to coordinate the actions of ministries and departments and oblast headquarters for the elimination of the consequences of the earthquakes are in operation. A charity account has been opened to collect money for the victims' fund. Subbotniks have been held in the republic with the proceeds going to this fund. Hundreds of Kazakhstan's labor collectives, trade union, women's, youth, and other public organizations and many citizens are rendering aid to the population of the afflicted regions.

But the cold is approaching, nocturnal frosts have started, and the inhabitants of these regions, mostly women and children, have been left without shelter. In the disaster zone, work is under way to provide the population with at least temporary housing and to place children in schools in cities and other population centers of the oblast and the republic.

Measures are being taken to provide people with food and to prevent infectious and intestinal disease. But the efforts the republic is making are obviously inadequate. In the disaster regions there is an acute shortage of manpower, construction equipment, and material resources. There is a shortage of motor transport and disruptions are being allowed in shipments of materials, machinery, and equipment stipulated by USSR Government decisions to render aid to the Kazakh regions which have suffered from the earthquake.

The USSR Supreme Soviet appeals to the soviets of people's deputies, the governments of the Union and autonomous republics, all labor collectives and management organs, and the country's Armed Forces to ease the lot of the inhabitants of the afflicted regions and render them any possible support and aid.

The Kazakh people have always fulfilled their international duty honestly and selflessly. Now it is the turn of all of us to lend it a hand of fraternal nationwide assistance.

Political & Social

Ryzhkov Interviewed on Food Supply, Coup Rumors

LD2909204290 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1745 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Interview with USSR Premier Nikolay Ryzhkov by correspondent Lobachenko; place and date not given; from the "In the USSR Government" program—live or recorded]

[Text] [Lobachenko] Nikolay Ivanovich, only one week has passed since our last meeting. This was a week full of important events and difficult phenomena. What were the main stages in the government's work?

[Ryzhkov] The Council of Ministers Presidium held a session which brought in all of the ministers and leaders of public special organizations to run through the issue of the end of the year and preparations for the coming year, 1991. We consider that these are the most important issues today, on which both the attention and the work of the country's government need to be concentrated, as well as the work of the Union republic councils of ministers and of all of the local bodies of administration, as well as of all of the labor collectives of our state as a whole. This is because we are not now in the easiest part of the year—it is the fourth quarter, it is the time when we move over to winter conditions, to work under winter conditions. So it is essential to prepare very seriously.

The main attention is now being focused on issues such as the work of industry in the fourth quarter. There are very many problems here, connected both with the imbalance in the national economy and with the delay in the receipt of a number of imported material resources, which of course has an effect particularly on the work of light industry. We are now taking all measures in order that light industry should nevertheless work normally during the fourth quarter. And there are a number of other issues.

Undoubtedly, in first place is the gathering in of the harvest. We adopted a governmental decision after Friday's Presidium session. It was published in the newspapers.

[Lobachenko] On 26 September?

[Ryzhkov] Yes, on 26 September, in which we once again set out specific measures on how we are to save the harvest which has now been cultivated, especially the potatoes, the potatoes and vegetables. The situation is very complex. I should say that vital changes have occurred during these last few days. In several oblasts and industrial regions people are going out into the fields despite the difficult weather conditions. The Army is helping a lot. It should be given its due—the Army is not sparing its strengths here and is helping literally everywhere it is needed and where there is the least opportunity.

So this is question number one, and how we start the winter and with what stocks we start the winter will to a great extent depend on this. Because a great deal is now being written about the fact that there will be a hungry winter—that there will not be any potatoes, there will not be any vegetables—everywhere depends on us. If we work today as we should, everything will be available. There is land, there is a yield. It just needs to be gathered in. So that issue was given special attention.

Clearly we are all worried about preparations for the winter, and this is something we are constantly working on and monitoring. I mentioned in one of my speeches that we unfortunately seem to be going into winter in a very relaxed manner this year. I guess we have been spoiled by the last three years, so we have to prepare properly. Two days ago we looked into the situation, and I have to tell all the viewers that, concerning fuel... [changes thought] We have enough gas, for instance, for the entire winter. We have pumped the necessary gas stocks into underground storage tanks.

As for coal, we shall keep the power stations supplied, and there is enough coal for the public; but the oil situation is worse. The oilmen are not supplying, not producing as much oil as we planned for this year, and great difficulties are arising in the delivery of coal for coking, for the metallurgy industry. The factories currently have only 1 million of the 2 million or more tonnes of coal that they should always have—only half the standard quantity, in other words. This worries us a lot, and we are not taking every measure; and I think that any miners listening in, those who mine coking coal—this is a special kind of coal—must realize that unless we now build up the required quantity of coal at our metallurgical works we shall get into a very tricky situation. And this is a continuous process; these blast furnaces cannot be stopped.

As for construction, we are not satisfied with the pace of construction, and we had a serious discussion on this. I think that in the same way that the local bodies now have to get very earnestly involved in preparations for winter, they must do the same in construction. Incidentally, we analyzed how the winter preparations are going in individual cities and industrial regions. After all, it is not enough to bring in... [changes thought] or rather, to have gas; the networks of mains have to function. Sverdlovsk, Arkhangelsk, Moscow, and Yakutiya, for instance, are not yet coping with their plans to properly prepare all the heating systems and all the power engineering installations to be ready for winter.

[Lobachenko] But there is very little time left.

[Ryzhkov] Well, the time remaining is literally a matter of weeks now. Regarding construction, we consider that very urgent measures must now be taken by all: the republics, the local bodies, the ministries, and the industries that build housing in our country. I would like to point out that this year, unless measures are now taken to build 125 million square meters of housing... [changes

thought] last year we commissioned 129,000,000. In other words, we might end up with a downturn.

This must be prevented at all costs. The picture is similar regarding other social and cultural facilities as well.

So this work is now at hand, and we are constantly keeping tabs on things, maintaining contact with the local bodies and the republics so that we get through the fourth quarter—the most difficult period for our national economy—and to rule out any possibility of a production downturn and to prepare for the winter. These are the main tasks then, and clearly all this is preparation for 1991 as well.

[Lobachenko] Nikolay Ivanovich, in the Council of Ministers decision of the 26th there is a special point stating, or simply instructing the Ministry of Defense to take active part, to take effective measures to help save the harvest. At the same time, we know that our soldiers, our citizens in Army overcoats, are working hard despite the weather, the mud, and the difficult conditions.

At the same time, rumors are being spread. Idle minds are spreading rumors about some kind of troop movements near Moscow and about something little short of a military plot. It is as if mud is being slung at people who are dragging our harvest out of the mud. This looks to me like a case of rank ingratitude.

[Ryzhkov] Yes. According to my information, we are receiving reports that rumors are being spread about the military being up to something here. Indeed, we discussed it in the USSR Supreme Soviet when Comrade Yazov replied to questions. Well, it is perfectly clear to me that we should be saying thank you to the Army for helping to save the harvest. And the fact that they are hard at work on this and on the first demand... [changes thought] We had not even managed to publish the decision before they were out in the fields, both in Moscow and in other industrial regions, and had begun helping. I think this kind of attitude toward the Army is simply immoral; it is a case of immorality which is out of line. And let us face it: These are our children, our boys; so why do we act this way toward them?

[Lobachenko] It is simply dishonest.

[Ryzhkov] It is... [changes thought] It has never been a tradition of ours to take a dim view of the Army. The Army is our Army, after all; and I consider it intolerable to indulge in speculation about the Army.

[Lobachenko] Especially since the Army has done so much in tackling many crisis situations, from Chernobyl to the fields around Moscow.

[Ryzhkov] Yes. Who was first in Chernobyl? The Army. And how many boys died there and how many officers died later? And who was first into Armenia? The Army. So, as they say, the soldier in his grey overcoat is always in the forefront. We must respect the Army, and in this case the Army is doing a lot. It has done a very great deal and still is helping to harvest the grain crops. You know how many vehicles they have dispatched. Now that the potato and vegetable harvests have to be brought in they are leading the field again. So we have nothing but gratidute toward the Army.

[Lobachenko] And so it is helping in the very saving of the harvest, which is so important for the solving of the foodstuffs problem.

[Ryzhkov] Of course.

[Lobachenko] Well, a great number of questions are received by the television on precisely these issues of foodstuffs. What do you think: What are the prospects for solving these problems?

[Ryzhkov] I consider that now, during these weeks—two, at most three weeks—if we work as we should, then we have grounds to state that we can stock up on both potatoes—although the harvest is worse this year, you see what the weather was like—and vegetables and fruit. So, for this reason, we are now literally keeping an eye on every zone. Discipline in supplies to a great extent, I would say, worries us and even raises our indignation.

Let us take as an example the issue of meat. The meat issue has become extremely acute. I received a telegram from Sverdlovsk Oblast yesterday. Evidently, from force of habit, they write often. I understand. I rang them and found out that the situation really was very difficult. What is it, what is occurring? I asked to be given information today. What, after all, is happening with meat deliveries?

It turns out that the people who were supposed to be delivering meat to Sverdlovsk Oblast are not delivering it. For example, the Mordova, Chuvash, and Bashkir Autonomous Republics and Kurgan Oblast—incidentally, a neighboring oblast—have halted supplies of meat to Sverdlovsk Oblast. From these regions alone, more than 2,000 tonnes of meat were not delivered to the town of Sverdlovsk during September. The situation was the same last month.

Or, let us take for example Kemerovo Oblast in the Kuzbass. During this month thousands of tonnes of meat from Voronezh, Penza, and Altay Kray were not despatched.

In the Russian Federation as a whole, in which one oblast supplies others all the time, within the Rusian Federation, the so- called republican stocks for the transfer of meat from one area to another are short by 200,000 tonnes. As a result many oblasts, those which are subsidized, those who import meat, like Sverdlovsk, Chelyabinsk, and Perm Oblast, are simply not receiving all of their meat. This is an issue of discipline. This must not be permitted any longer. We are now—well literally, we will invite—we are already inviting the oblasts and the oblast executive committees to demand by administrative means; and evidently there are other measures for influencing things... [changes thought] But after all, it is necessary for the local bodies to understand as well that

there have been occasions when it has simply been said do not deliver to that oblast, and that is all.

As is known, Karelia recently announced that it would not deliver paper, timber, and tractors to other areas of the country. Well, that is a natural reaction to the fate that foodstuffs and other materials which are delivered to other regions were not delivered to it. So, we must not go as far as to reach such a state in which we declare economic war on each other.

[Lobachenko] One gets a chain reaction?

[Ryzhkov] Yes, one get a chain reaction. And in the end, in the end, it is bad for everyone.

[Lobachenko] The country's economic organism is destroyed.

[Ryzhkov] Of course. It is the country's unified national economic organism. It ought to work clearly, smoothly.

[Lobachenko] Nikolay Ivanovich, a few days ago my wife became ill and asked me to buy cardiovascular medicines. I tried to buy analginum, too. There is nothing at the pharmacy: no analginum, no korvalov, no medicines whatsoever.

[Ryzhkov] Well, it is not just your wife who is scolding you; other wives feel the same about that question. It is a very serious question.

When I speak of discipline, that does not mean discipline only as applies to a person, so that he goes to work. There should be discipline in everything, including... [changes thought] Last year, at the end of last year, when we were entering 1990, we specially adopted a government decision to the effect that enteprises or factories under all-Union subordination may not be closed without the permission of the Union government.

Nevertheless, outright violations are being committed all around. For instance, regarding the medical industry. Over that time, a great many factories have been closed. I mean that as a result of this, we have reduced the production of aspirin by 30-40 percent.

I will now take a look at cardiovascular and other most important medicines in mass demand: amidopyrine. I have been given information that at the expense of the closure of those plants alone—which we asked not to close down, for the people would be left without medicines—we have not been able to manufacture 700 million rubles [R] worth of medicines.

[Lobachenko] Which plants were closed?

[Ryzhkov] Well, let us say such plants as Azot [nitrogen] in Dneprodzerzhinsk, the Kiev Khimikat [chemicals] plant, the well-known Nairit in Yerevan, of which we have spoken frequently—it supports many plants, including pharmaceuticals plants. It turned out that this year we have increased purchases from abroad by R600 million. Well, we took foreign currency from other facilities in order to buy medicines. We bought R600 million worth, and thought it would be a boost for the national economy, for the people; but we lost R700 million. That is the situation; and I think such a situation is impermissible whereby factories are closed thoughtlessly.

I understand that ecology is ecology. There are many problems there. But it is impossible to do that in one day. In the end, it is people themselves who suffer. So the question of discipline is in the forefront today.

In my opinion, such a situation has evolved in our country that we must come to a halt in that respect. I do not want to dramatize, nor do I want to frighten people. I do not have the right to do this. But it is simply impossible, it is impossible to continue to leave things like this, in the situation which we have at the moment. Laws are not being executed. Along with this, there are wholesale violations, not to mention all kinds of criminal violations. That is, we have not had such a situation in our country for a long time. If we do not put a halt to this now, we could aggravate the situation. And then we all ask, what is happening in the country? Why are measures not being taken? You understand, economic measures have not yet been properly worked out. And those administrative methods of leadership which were in existence previously, these are in fact being destroyed.

In addition to this, executive committees at all levels and local soviets at all levels have to this day not found ways and means of working. At the moment they are sharing authority between themselves.

Therefore, I consider that the decree which was issued the day before yesterday [27 September] about direct links being established and consolidated next year is a well-timed decree by the president. If we do not do this, we may find ourselves next year when, because of such disinclinations of one kind or another, when market relations have still not been properly established... [changes thought] So perhaps the single national, the work of the single national economic complex has simply been disturbed.

In general, today many of our misfortunes ensue from the fact that the single national economic complex which was previously held together was done so by rigid directives. Today, we have relaxed these directives and have said let us use other methods—more democratic, economic measures. This does not make for unity. Therefore, we think that in the near future we will elaborate proposals for strict, economic sanctions; and evidently during this transition to the market many people should feel that it is necessary in the case at hand, as they say, to pay in rubles. And what is the ruble? It is the lifeblood of the labor collective.

So the issue is a very serious one. I consider that the country cannot live without discipline, without order and without responsibility.

[Lobachenko] Thank you, Nikolay Ivanovich, for your interesting and frank conversation with us and with our television viewers.

[Ryzhkov] Goodbye.

Yazov Interviewed on Coup Rumors, Troop Movements

PM2809191590 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 29 Sep 90 First Edition p 1

[Interview with Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Yazov, USSR minister of defense, by N. Belan: "If Only to Make a Bit of a Fuss... From a Competent Source About the 'Military Coup'"; place and date not given]

[Text] Our conversation was interrupted by a telephone call literally in the first minute. My interlocutor, Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Yazov, was being called by Yu. Litvintsev, chairman of Tula Oblast Soviet, who was asking for assistance with transport to convey city dwellers to the potato and vegetable harvest.

"OK, Yuriy Ivanovich," the minister promised, "the Airborne Troops will allocate trucks to you. Yes, yes, 75 trucks, as you request."

Then the marshal contacted the commander of the Airborne Troops and issued an order.

[Belan] Dmitriy Timofeyevich, are such requests put to you often?

[Yazov] Practically every day. Not to mention the fact that such questions are constantly being resolved locally—with commanders of districts and fleets and commanding officers of units and formations. Today the Army is actively helping to save the harvest. Some 46,600 military vehicles are working in the country's fields, including 32,100 in the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic]. Some 26,000 servicemen are working from among the Moscow Military District's troops alone. As of 27 September, we had transported 19,388,000 tonnes of grain, vegetables, and other agricultural produce from the fields, including 13,788,000 tonnes in Russia. For comparison, I will remind you that last year in the RSFSR alone 25,000 vehicles sent by us transported 23.05 million tonnes of the harvest grown by collective and state farms. So the Armed Forces' assistance has always been and still is tangible, and those who attempt to create in public opinion an image of the Army as an idler and a parasite are being really cunning.

[Belan] But where do these attempts originate, what lies behind them?

[Yazov] You know, at the time of the notorious events in Fergana more than 17,500 Meskhetian Turks found protection for themselves and their children in a paratroop regiment's training center. The soldiers fed them, sharing their last scraps, provided medical assistance, and gave them everything they possibly could. Or let us recall the earthquake in Armenia—how many people were rescued from death by soldiers, and how many thousands were given food, clothing, and shelter. There are many similar examples, even if we only look back a few years and, let us say, take Chernobyl as our starting point. Accidents, crashes, natural disasters—everywhere servicemen have been the first to come to people's assistance, and they have been and still are protectors in places of interethnic discord.

I have already said repeatedly that our Army is part of the people, it serves the people, leads the same life as them, and is historically endowed with the people's trust. The elections reaffirmed this truth: The people's deputies of the USSR include 83 servicemen, those of the Union republics 114, and of local soviets 8,751. So, against whom, one wonders, does the Army "intend" to march by "contemplating" a coup? Against its own fathers and mothers, wives and sisters; against itself?

But such "intentions" are intensively ascribed to the Army, and this talk of a coup is artificially imposed. By whom? By those who themselves go against the people, gambling with their fate for the sake of achieving their own political ends, for the sake of power, for the sake of overthrowing the existing system. But the Army is like a thorn in their flesh, and today it is one of the powerful forces standing in their way, loyally serving the people and Soviet power.

Life has already shown repeatedly what anti-Army speculation is worth and has opened many eyes. And the same thing will happen with the rumors of "strange troop movements" near Moscow and of a coup supposedly being prepared. Yes, in fact it is already happening. A sober-minded person could hardly believe them—it is ridiculous. But the reason why this topic was blown up so assiduously is good food for thought. In order to divert people's attention from empty shelves in vegetable stores when there has been a good harvest? From glaring instances where trucks of potatoes, vegetables, and fruit are simply not let into the capital, while what has been grown in Moscow Oblast rots in the fields? Or in order in the future to absolve themselves of responsibility for most scandalous preparations or, more accurately, lack of preparations for winter by means of this excuse: The military has been unmasked, it did not feel like procuring agricultural produce. How can one fail to recall here the "Action Program-90"—virtually a program for the seizure of power by the "Russian Democratic Forum," which prescribes that it is necessary to seek "democratization" with the help of rallies, demonstrations, picketing, strikes, civil disobedience campaigns, etc.

[Belan] But, as reported in the press, information about troop activity has also come from Colonel S. Kudinov, chief of the Political Department of Ryazan Higher Airborne Command School.

[Yazov] I officially declare once again: All this talk and conjecture absolutely does not tally with the truth—they were ordinary exercises, the plan of which was approved in the General Staff as long ago as 25 August.

Further, Col. Kudinov has a right to his own opinion, but it is founded on total ignorance of the plan of the exercises. And why should the commander of the Airborne Troops have informed Kudinov of it? As far as I can remember, memoir literature describes just one instance where a military leader, a marshal, supposedly drove to a colonel, a chief of a political department, to consult him before making a decision.... Col. General V. Achalov is distinguished by the fact that he teaches Airborne Troops without simplification and in earnest, and no one even among the division's commanding officers knows the plans of the commander of the Airborne Troops—otherwise they would not be exercises but ordinary instruction.

I have already addressed the USSR Supreme Soviet session and replied to a question from People's Deputy S. Belozertsev. The statement claiming that as early as 6 September the Ryazan CPSU Obkom [Oblast Committee] Bureau discussed the allegation that KGB organs had intercepted information on a plan being prepared under the auspices of the Russian government to seize power, etc. is simply groundless. On 6 September the Russian Communist Party Congress was in progress, and those comrades from Ryazan were at the congress. As the obkom first secretary declared, no bureau session or conference was held on that topic.

Yes, two airborne regiments did arrive in Moscow—in airborne fighting vehicles from Ryazan and in trucks from Kostroma, to prepare for a parade. There are questions: Why with weapons and ammunition, with flak jackets? But, comrades, they are airborne units, and God forbid that it would be necessary to move them urgently to protect the population in a particular region of interethnic strife—have there really been few such examples already, or we have not been accused of helping belatedly? [sentence as published] In just the same way the Pskov Division was fulfilling its tasks in accordance with the exercise plan.

It is further claimed that units of the Vitebsk Airborne Division of the USSR KGB Border Troops were placed on a state of combat readiness and traveled toward Moscow. Not one subunit of that division was alerted or took a step toward Moscow. The claim that the Dzerzhinskiy Division was placed in a state of combat readiness does not tally with the truth either.

The accident was also different from the way it was reported in the press. Incidentally, it involved a Zaporozhets, not a Zhiguli. It was quite unconnected with the movement of the regiment, which allegedly crushed that peaceful vehicle in its path, because it did not happen 10 September but later, and the Zaporozhets collided with the vehicle in which the military investigator of the local garrison was traveling. [Yazov ends]

I put another question to Marshal Yazov: What was the reaction to his statement in parliament? For the sake of objectivity (and, evidently, it is immodest to speak about oneself) Dmitriy Timofeyevich advised me to turn to A.I. Lukyanov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

"This is what I wish to point out: The more the Army is attacked now, the more pained is the people's reaction and the more letters and telegrams we receive in defense of it," Anatoliy Ivanovich said.

[Belan] Our editorial office receives many calls too. People are perplexed: Soldiers are harvesting potatoes, preparing for parade, and training, but people try to pass them off as conspirators—how is this?

"It is essential to understand everything correctly," Anatoliy Ivanovich replied. "This is very advantageous to someone. And not only to stir up the Army and slander it but, most importantly, to prove that some coup is being prepared and to divert attention both from the fact that the local authorities are idle and from what is planned in the 'Program-90.'"

The chairman of the country's Supreme Soviet and the USSR minister of defense generally expressed similar thoughts.

Popov Says Coup Speculation Not Realistic

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[Text] Moscow, Sept 28 (TANJUG)—The balance of power in the Soviet society and Army indicates that, at this moment, it would not be realistic to expect a military coup in the country, one of the leaders of the Soviet Democratic parties and movements and Moscow mayor, Gavriil Popov, told a news conference Friday morning.

Gavriil said, however, that the further aggravation of the situation in the country, especially regarding the supply of food and fuel, could spark off riots, so that the former statement does not refer to this.

The other leaders of the inter-regional group of deputies and the political bloc called the Democratic Russia, set out that a state of emergency or Army rule could last only a short time due to the activities of the strong democratic forces.

The press conference was held to quell the rumours in Moscow that the democratic parties and movements are preparing to take over power by force.

The participants of the conference denied this, as well as rumours that they had planned a coup for October 6 and 7 (Constitution Day).

They said that there is reason to believe that such actions could be provoked, and would be at the advantage of those who are seeking excuses for introducing a state of emergency and destroying the democratic forces.

Rumors Circulate of 'Mafia' Blockade of Moscow

LD2909202490

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1700 GMT on 29 September, in its regular "Vremya" newscast, broadcasts a three-minute report by correspondent A. Panov from Moscow. The report begins with the studio announcer saying that rumors are circulating in Moscow of a trade blockade of the capital by the Mafia. He says that "our film crew joined the fraud squad staff in a sweep today."

Correspondent A. Panov is shown reporting from a food shop where shelves are completely empty and people are shown queueing at empty counters. He says that economic collapse and the disruption of center-province links are one factor, as is mismanagement, but a popular explanation is the intrigues of the Mafia, which is blockading the ways into Moscow. "According to these rumors, the Mafia is aiming for a head-on confrontation with the democrats from Moscow Soviet and millions of Muscovites, who quite simply have nothing to buy." Panov chats to truck drivers from Tbilisi, Baku, Sukhumi, Cheboksary, Moldova, and Kharkov who brought in loads of fruit and vegetables today. Although they have heard rumors of hefty thugs stopping vehicles, thrusting forward wads of banknotes, and demanding produce bound for Moscow be unloaded, none had had any such experiences; though as Panov observes, there certainly are Mafia rackets in operation, most likely to be something connected with articles such as the car found in the back of one of the trucks. Panov adds: "But as far as the story of the Mafia allegedly blockading Moscow goes, we need facts, and there are none so far." I. M., Skorodelov, head of a Moscow executive committee fraud squad department, says that no specific evidence of a Mafia blockade has come to light, but the investigation is continuing.

Panov says: "Without your help, esteemed viewers, this search will be rather like looking for a black cat in a dark room at night. All the more so if there is no cat." The studio presenter adds that it is to be hoped that the rumors of a cordon around Moscow will die down after this report; empty shop shelves are due to mismanagement more than anything else.

Yeltsin's Injuries 'More Serious' Than Thought

LD2909072390 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0650 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow, 29 Sep (TASS)—The consequences of the road accident which befell Boris Yeltsin, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, on 21 September have proved more serious than was first imagined, stated official spokesman Gennadiy Burbulis in an interview published today by the newspaper TRUD.

"Massive bruising of the body, especially the thigh, is gradually passing. The main treatment, doctors consider, is calm and strict bed rest for a period of 10 days," he reported. Nevertheless, the head of the Russian parliament, as always, has not lost his optimism, and is constantly following all the events taking place. Housekeepers are looking after Boris Yeltsin.

Gorbachev's Meeting With Cultural Leaders Detailed

LD2909200290 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 29 Sep 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] We now offer you a report on USSR President Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's meeting with cultural personalities.

[Correspondent Kiselev] I have received a reliable point of support; this is very important for me. This was declared by President Gorbachev after his meeting with leading cultural figures: Aytmatov, Bondarev, Bykov, Burlatskiy, Vasnetsov, Gamzatov, Gubenko, Zalygin, Zakharov, Kamshalov, Karpov, Lavrov, Likhachev, Mikhalov, Nikulin, Oleynik, Rasputin, Sviridov, Solomin, Ugarov, Ulyanov, Khrennikov, Khudonazarov, Shatrov—such is the incomplete list of the president's Saturday guests. There was no time limit, and each was heard to the end. They spoke of the traumatic results of the decline in the standard of spiritual life in the country, about the lack of funds, and the disastrous situation of unskilled cultural workers. The argument was an intelligent one, and there was agreement on many things.

First and foremost, they all supported the president's initiative on the necessity for civic accord in society on the eve of transition to the market. Yes, pluralism remains, but public reconciliation is what is particularly important today, for the alternative to it is public confrontation, the extreme degree of which is war and blood.

Culture must play an important uniting role. The economy has assigned us literally a few months, and a great deal must be done through the power of the president. I shall use my new powers, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said, addressing the people's intellectual leaders.

Dmitriy Sergeyevich Likhachev was the first to ask to speak at the meeting with our president. What did you start with?

[Likhachev, chairman of Soviet Culture Fund] Ours is a great epoch. First and foremost, we have restructured global and international relations; We have freed the world from the fear of war. That is very important. Second, we have liberated culture. I make the following comparison here: I used to be very fond of birds, and when you let a bird free, that is a dangerous moment. First, its little wings are weak, and second—how should I put it—it has no feeding trough any more; it has to seek all its own food. The same thing is happening now: we have set culture free. Culture in our country was repressed, as if imprisoned in a cell. It has now been let free; it will reverberate for thousands of years; it will go

down in history, you understand. But it means that very serious problems lie ahead of us.

[Kiselev] You put forward a draft declaration backed by many of the people at today's meeting. What is the main idea of this?

[Likhachev] The main idea is that there should be specific demands. The main idea is in the first point: that culture—culture is usually portrayed as the culture of the theater, music, and so forth, the culture of labor, the culture of conducting administrative work, and so forth. That is all culture, it all comes into the concept of culture. And this is the most important thing now. You see, what sort of laws can we establish if these laws are not going to be implemented? If people with an undeveloped sense of culture are at the head of an institution? There are eight points in all—I hope someone will publish them in some paper or other— Culture: A Declaration—and it is written on the model of the Declaration of Human Rights, this being the Declaration on Cultural Rights.

[Kiselev] Do you think you are able to influence the president?

[Likhachev, laughing] Anyone can influence Mikhail Sergeyevich if he puts forward specific suggestions, and these specific suggestions are good ones.

[Kiselev] But culture itself is in need of help. The state has no right to ignore its interests, and that means first and foremost the pay of its rank-and-file workers, in addition to unjustifiably high taxes or fees for creative activity. Many talented people are quite simply leaving the country because of these taxes, and losses such as these are an impermissble luxury. To judge from today's meeting, President Gorbachev is ready to help culture.

[Kiselev] What do you think, Georgiy Vasiliyevich: Was today's meeting an intellectual need on the part of the president, or political expediency?

[Svirdonov] I am not very well acquainted with the president, but I think both aspects are involved; political expediency alone will not explain his serious intellectual and, I would say, committed tone in this conversation. But there is political expediency—he clearly does not even take a single step without consideration for political expediency; he is a politician, a major politician. I would like to see greater confidence in the intelligentsia.

[Kiselev] In the intelligentsia or on the part of the intelligentsia?

[Sviridonov] In the intelligentsia; greater confidence in the intelligentsia. As a Russian, I will say that—even though I have lived a long time—there still remains a certain relic of the distrust which once was felt for the Russian intelligentsia.

[Kiselev] Did you sense that at today's meeting?

[Sviridonov] Well, I feel now that there is an atmosphere here of complete confidence. Everything was listened to very attentively, there was a very attentive conversation, and that was not only in the speeches, so to speak, but also in dialogue sometimes. Everything here is very interesting and valuable. [passage omitted]

[Kiselev] The participants at the meeting addressed a letter to the USSR president. Documents of the meeting will be published in the press.

Group Presents Appeal to Gorbachev

LD2909152390 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] The meeting in the Kremlin between USSR President Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and cultural figures has been going on for seven hours. During this time virtually all the participants have spoken. Everyone was given the chance to express openly his opinion about the state of affairs in culture and to exchange opinions about the ways to create the conditions for its development and to lead it out of crisis.

It has already been reported that the meeting's participants gave Comrade Gorbachev a letter of appeal in which there is a request that the USSR president take into his direct charge the needs of Soviet culture and the concerns of its figures. There is a need for action for the country's leaders which would decisively change the situation which has formed, for the development of the whole of the nation's culture is an investment in the viability of our state. The philosopy of practical life recently, the appeal says, in essence demonstrates the neglect of the interests of culture, the destructive lack of understanding of its saving, healing mission of renewal in the life of people today and in the future in the multi national union of sovereign soviet republics. For Soviet people culture remains the hope and comfort without which life is impossible. An account of the meeting will be published.

Role of Culture in Reform Noted

LD2909085590 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0810 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow, 29 Sep (TASS)—USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev met with figures from Soviet culture in the Kremlin today. The participants in the meeting included Dmitriy Likhachev, Valentin Rasputin, Chingiz Aytmatov, Boris Oleynik, Mikhail Ulyanov,Mikhail Shatrov, Mark Zakharov, Rolan Bykov, Tikhon Khrennikov and Yuriy Solomin.

"We have approached a decisive phase of changes in all spheres of society and the life of our Union," Mikhail Gorbachev said, opening the meeting. "To surmount the tasks on this road without our intelligentsia is a task that is beyond our strength. Today we will have a serious conversation about the problems of culture, which came to a head long ago. It is also very important for us to know your rection to events going on in the country."

"Cultural figures believe today we need more resolute actions from the USSR president to radically change the situation that has developed," USSR Culture Minister Nikolay Gubenko told your TASS correspondent before the start of the meeting. "A decline of culture will have an unpredictable and inevitable influence on the lives of each people and each individual person. The danger of total commercialization in market conditions represents a real threat to society. We are all disturbed that some laws adopted by the country's Supreme Soviet have virtually excluded culture from the sphere of the concerns of the Union government and the prerogatives of the state. We have set out everything that alarms and worries us in an appeal to the USSR president, which will be handed over today. I believe attention will be focused at the present meeting on the consolidating role of culture in the current complex situation, since it is the very thing which is capable of uniting peoples."

Culture Minister To Join Council

LD2909201790 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1925 GMT 29 Sep 90

[From the "Television News Service" program]

[Excerpt] President Gorbachev today put forward an initiative for civic accord in the country. Addressing cultural figures, the state leader asked them to understand that civic accord and public reconciliation is what lies between the blood of confrontation and totalitarian barrack rule. The president went on to say that what he meant was an agreement between the forces of democracy, and for this he received applause in support.

The importance the president attaches to spiritual matters is attested to by the fact that he has proposed bringing USSR Culture Minister Nikolay Gubenko into the Presidential Council. A decree on the new apointment is expected in the next few days. [passage omitted]

Meeting With Cultural Leaders Ends

LD2909161590 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1535 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow, 29 Sep (TASS)—The meeting between USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev and Soviet cultural figures has just ended. For more than seven hours well-known men of literature, musicians, cinematographers, and leaders of creative unions discussed the problems of cultural development in the conditions of the transition to the market economy.

The speakers emphasized the need to strengthen the support, both moral and material, for our multinational culture with its unifying, humanizing mission, the responsibility of the artist for the moral health of society and the people, the establishment through joint efforts of civic accord in the country, without which it is not possible to move ahead successfully along the path of radical reforms. The president delivered final remarks. The meeting took place in a situation of principled dialogue and mutual trust; of search for constructive solutions.

Writer Aitmatov Voices Concern

LD2909172490 Moscow TASS in English 1715 GMT 29 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Lyudmila Shvedova]

[Text] Moscow September 29 TASS—In an interview with TASS, following a meeting between President Gorbachev and Soviet cultural figures in the Kremlin today, writer Chinghiz Aitmatov voiced concern about "factors undermining Soviet culture."

Aitmatov spoke about Russia's "great responsibility" and "binding and integrating role".

Russia has always been the centre and this is especially important today, he said.

The Soviet Union now reminds a sinking ship whose crew, instead of trying to seal the leak rush to life boats and row to shore, he said.

"I cannot imagine Central Asia's future without Russia," he said. "Our ties with Russia, our unity set the ground for the development of nations."

"Many are now reveling in the idea of absolute sovereignty. However, absolute sovereignty means independent borders, economy, diplomacy and a monetary system. Is this prudent? I don't think this is a constructive idea," he said.

Speakers at the meeting suggested setting up a special body under Gorbachev's Presidential Council to tackle cultural problems, according to Aitmatov.

This is a good idea, but the new body should not duplicate the old ones, he believes.

Commenting on culture and market relations, Aitmatov said the government should work against the commercialisation of culture.

Presidential Council Discusses Defense Conversion

LD2809120890 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1145 GMT 28 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondents Lev Aksenov and Yuriy Sizov]

[Text] Moscow, 28 Sep (TASS)—Today a session of the USSR Presidential Council is in progress in the Kremlin under the chairmanship of Mikhail Gorbachev. Vitaliy Ignatenko, chief of the press service of the head of the Soviet state, reported this.

Under discussion at the session is the issue "of boosting the effectiveness of implementing conversion of the defense sectors of the USSR industry", Vitaliy Ignatenko continued. He reported that Igor Belousov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has given a

report. A speech by USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev is expected in the afternoon.

Conversion Program Detailed

LD2809181490 Moscow TASS in English 1751 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow September 28 TASS—A meeting of the Presidential Council of the USSR was held here today. The meeting presided over by Mikhail Gorbachev discussed measures to enhance the effectiveness of the conversion of the defence industries to civilian uses. Members of the Union government, heads of a number of research and production amalgamations, plants and institutes, designers-general and experts participated.

The meeting discussed the state programme of the conversion of the defence industry planned for the period up to the year 1995. The draft programme envisages the main directions for reorienting the defence industry and science to the development and production of the most important kinds of consumer goods.

With taking into account conversion, the value of the output of consumer goods in 1991-1995 is intended to reach 270 billion roubles, almost double the value as compared with the previous five-year period.

Manpower and scientific and technological potential thus saved will be used for a considerable increase of the output of technological equipment for processing industries of the agro-industrial complex, for the light and food industries, trade and public catering, the medical and electronic industries, means of communication, television and radio broadcasting, civilian shipbuilding and aircraft construction, manufacture of equipment and instruments for nature conservation.

Under the programme much attention is given to social protection of the interests of work collectives of enterprises subject to conversion. A complex of measures for retraining and employment of personnel, for social welfare of workers displaced from defence production sectors is envisaged.

During the debate there were many proposals to specify a number of trends of the programme, perfect the process of the conversion and enhance the effectiveness of measures planned.

During the implementation of the programme it is intended to make amendments and supplements connected with the reaching of arrangements in the framework of the negotiations for the further reduction of armed forces and armaments. It was noted that there is a need to channel the efforts of collectives of defence branches during the conversion towards the stepping up of work in the area of civil aviation, shipbuilding, aerospace and communications with broad use of international cooperation.

It was noted that there is a need to work out specific measures for conversion at other enterprises, that would take into account the transition into a market and specific features of the development of separate regions.

The president of the USSR instructed the USSR Council of Ministers to supplement the state programme for conversion with taking into account the debate held and to endorse the programme.

Presidential Press Chief Delivers Briefing 28 Sep

Notes Presidential Council Meeting

LD2809155190 Moscow TASS in English 1429 GMT 28 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondents Lev Aksyonov, Konstantin Voytsekhovich, and Igor Peskov]

[Text] Moscow September 28 TASS—The question of "raising the effectiveness of the conversion of defence-related sectors of the Soviet industry" is being discussed today by the Soviet Presidential Council under the chairmanship of Mikhail Gorbachev.

A report on the subject was made by Deputy Prime Minister Igor Belousov.

Gorbachev is expected to make a speech in the afternoon, Vitaliy Ignatenko, head of the Presidential Press Service, told a briefing here today.

In view of an application to the president in connection with N. Fomin and A. Dyatlov, former staff members of the Chernobyl nuclear power station, who are now in prison, it was decided to release them ahead of time, Ignatenko said.

Former Chief Engineer Fomin and his deputy Dyatlov were sentenced to ten years imprisonment following the 1986 Chernobyl accident. No details connected with the possible release were given.

Commenting, at journalists' request, on the September 27 presidential decree on urgent measures to stabilise economic ties in the fourth quarter of 1990 and in 1991, and its connection with the programme for a transition to a market economy, Ignatenko emphasised that "the decree is within the framework of the programme".

"The decree was issued for the sole purpose of stabilising the economic situation in the country as soon as possible", Ignatenko said.

Asked whether the Soviet leadership is expected to be in contact with representatives of Arab countries soon, Ignatenko said that "no such contacts are envisaged in the coming two weeks".

Remarks on Gorbachev Decree

LD2809174990 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1340 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Remarks by Vitaliy Ignatenko, chief of the USSR President's Press Service, in response to questions by an

unidentified correspondent at a news briefing at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center in Moscow on 28 September—live or recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Ignatenko] I am now ready to answer any questions that you may have.

[Unidentified correspondent in English, fading into Russian translation] A question from the U.S. newspaper BALTIMORE SUN: President Gorbachev yesterday issued a decree on the freezing of economic relations until the end of the year. How does this decree relate to any option of the Shatalin program, the presidential program, for the transition to a market economy? Will they not be at variance with each other? And has Mr. Gorbachev changed his opinion with regard to the timetable for and nature of the transition to the market economy? Thank you.

[Ignatenko] No, this is all in line with the program, but, as you know, and we have spoken here of this several times, a stabilization in relations is now more than ever very essential for us. This stabilization must first and foremost apply to monetary and financial relations, credit, and so on. Therefore, the decree that was issued today once again stresses urgent measures that only bring us closer to the transition to a market economy.

It might seem to you that these measures today are some kind of command-administrative method, but I would say that this is not so. Here, there is a combination of various methods and it is being done for the sole aim of the fastest possible stabilization of the economic state of affairs in the country and a transition to the market as the next stage. This does not mean that Gorbachev has renounced his own idea.

Further on Interregional Deputies' News Conference

Group Presents Proposal Documents

LD2809185390 Moscow TASS in English 1825 GMT 28 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondents Igor Agabekov and Igor Gvritishvili]

[Text] Moscow September 28 TASS—Doubts about the expediency of expanding the powers of the president of the USSR without prior consent of Soviet republics and dissatisfaction with the refusal of the Supreme Soviet to single out as basic the Gorbachev-Yeltsin plan in the new programme for economic restructuring—are the basic content of two documents passed by the Coordinating Council of the Interregional Group of Deputies and presented today at a press conference here.

The first document—"On Additional Powers of the President of the USSR"—says that the USSR Supreme Soviet's determination to implement the transition to a market economy by strengthening the executive power with a new law is understandable.

The desire to ensure discipline and order in the country is equally understandable. However, presidential powers can be expanded without undermining his authority only with consent of constituent republics.

More important, it is impossible to determine in which way to expand presidential powers before the adoption of a plan of radical political-administrative reforms, the document says.

The Coordinating Council suggested to prepare a draft reform of the administrative-political system in addition to the economic programme.

It called for the setting up of an independent elected executive power by creating a committee of presidents and chairmen of supreme soviets of constituent republics and convening an assembly of Soviet people's deputies by agreed quotas to immediately begin discussing the problem of the Union treaty.

In connection with the granting of additional powers to the president a statement by the Council of Representatives of the Moscow Association of Voters was circulated at the conference.

The statement says that only "the resignation of Ryzhkov's government, the creation of a coalition government with a vote of confidence by the people and the immediate implementation of the '500 days' programme can justify the granting of additional powers to the president of the USSR."

The document calls on all democratic forces in the republic to unite into the Democratic Russia Movement and be prepared for all forms of protest, including a political strike, should it be necessary to protect democracy and rescue the country's economy.

The second document, adopted by the Interregional Group—"On the Drafting of a Plan for the Transition to a Market Economy"—says that the Supreme Soviet decision to unite two mutually exclusive programmes for the transition to a market points to "an extremely dangerous situation of another capitulation by the president before the conservative forces, more tensions between the centre and the republics, especially Russia, and the break-up of a fledgling centre-left coalition that promised a way out of the crisis."

It is necessary to make additional efforts to redirect the movement along the path of the Gorbachev-Yeltsin agreement.

In order to achieve this, the Interregional Group of Deputies believes that it is necessary to single out the sphere of activities of the government of the centre and measures it should implement in the final version of the programme of economic perestroyka as well as the principle of independence of republics in other spheres that are not part of the general programme.

The document says republican prime ministers should be asked to set up a coordinating economic committee by sending permanent representatives and providing other staff.

The Interregional Group of deputies and the democratic Russia bloc also circulated at the press conference a statement in connection with the "growing campaign, accusing democrats of plotting to seize power."

The Interregional Group of Deputies and Democratic Russia did not call for demonstrations and strikes on November 6 and 7 and October 7 (Constitution Day), the statement said.

"We are determined to act in accordance with law," it said.

Moscow Mayor Gavriil Popov, one of the leaders of the Interregional Group said the Democratic Movement had nothing to do with the "programme of action-90" that calls for "an armed uprising and the overthrow of the sitting government."

Denies Calling for Strikes

PM2809180390 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Correspondent V. Kurasov report: "With Regard to Two Decisions"]

[Text] The coordinating councils of the Interregional Deputies' Group and the "Democratic Russia" block held a news conference in Moscow 28 September. USSR People's Deputies A. Murashev, M. Poltoranin, G. Popov, and G. Filshin and Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic People's Deputies Ye. Kim, M. Chelnokov, and S. Filatov met with Soviet and foreign journalists.

The replies to questions and the documents distributed to the participants in the news conference express certain anxiety with regard to recent USSR Supreme Soviet decisions, namely the decisions on additional powers for the USSR president and on the elaboration of a plan of the transition to a market economy.

The organizers of the news conference believe, in particular, that measures can be taken to extend the USSR president's powers without detriment to his authority only with the consent of the Union republics. The Coordinating Council of the Interregional Deputies' Group proposed preparing a draft political-administrative reform, after setting up for this purpose a Committee of Presidents and Supreme Soviet Chairmen of the Union Republics.

Resolving the question of the transition to a market economy, the coordinating councils deem it necessary to single out the following in the final version of the program of economic perestroyka: the center's sphere of activity and the measures which it must take; the general principles, agreed among the republics, of republican legislation on questions of the transition to the market; the principle of the republics' independence in everything that does not come under the overall program.

A joint appeal from both coordinating councils to voters was also disseminated at the news conference in connection with the campaign which is being mounted, as this appeal states, to accuse democrats of a conspiracy with a view to seizing power.

The Interregional Deputies' Group and "Democratic Russia" declared that they have not discussed or advanced any calls for demonstrations or strikes on 6 and 7 October, USSR Constitution Day. They believe that such actions might be provoked and will serve the purposes of those who would like to find even some semblance of a conspiracy so as to have grounds for introducing a state of emergency in the country and routing democratic forces.

Democratic Platform Leader Discuss Party Plans

LD0110115390 Moscow TASS in English 1140 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Moscow October 1 TASS—Supporters of the Soviet Communist Party's Democratic Platform faction are preparing to found an independent political party and are expected to hold the founding conference in mid-November.

The new party will focus on promoting Russian sovereignty and supporting the "500-day" economic programme, Democratic Platform Coordination Council member Vyacheslav Shostakovskiy told TASS.

In order to achieve this the party is prepared to enter into coalition with other leftist parties, he said.

Shostakovskiy is critical about the emerging Soviet democratic parties. Commenting on the Russian Democratic Party led by Nikolay Travkin, he said their policy of negation, without a clear-cut, productive programme, is doomed to failure. To bring the Soviet Communist Party to trial cannot be a serious policy objective, he said.

The two parties differ in structure, he explained.

Travkin believes that only a very disciplined organisation can stand up to the Soviet Communist Party, whereas the Democratic Platform is an umbrella organisation, whose leadership only coordinates local branches, Shostakovskiy explained.

Both parties are expected to become "classical type" parties with the Russian Democratic Party gaining influence in large work collectives and the Democratic Platform popular among intellectuals and skilled workers, he believes.

Social-Democrats' "finest hour" is still far distant, since their policy can bear fruit only in a prosperous economy "when there are products to distribute", he said.

The Communist movement has a past and a future, he said.

'Soyuz' Group Members Discuss Aims, Prospects

LD2709195990

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1755 GMT on 27 September carries a 10-minute "Topical Interview" program entitled "For One Union." The program consists of a discussion between political observer Igor Kudrin, and three representatives of the "Soyuz" [Union] group of USSR people's deputies: Viktor Imantovich Alksins, Vladimir Arkadyevich Valov, and Georgiy Ivanovich Tikhonov.

Kudrin introduces the program by saying that the Soviet Union is going through a difficult periood, and that many deputies think that the further development of democracy and the switch to the market must take place throughout the whole state in a renewed union of sovereign republics. Some think that the problems facing the USSR are insurmountable and that the whole structure must be broken up—Solzhenytsyn is one of the most well-known people to have voiced such a view.

Kudrin goes on to say that little is known about the "Soyuz" group, and asks the deputies to talk about it and its program. Alksins says the group favors Soviet federalism; that is, a single union able to guarantee the rights of all nationalities. There are about 450 people's deputies in the group. The group has certain difficulties, especially lack of access to the media. Nevertheless it has broad support, and receives many letters expressing this support.

Valov says that the group is supported by broad sections of the community.

Tikhonov says that the group has registered its own newspaper, RAVENSTVO, INTERNATSIONALIZM I FEDERATSIYA [Equality, Internationalism, and Federation], the three words that sum up their program.

Kudrin says the group has been accused of conservatism. Valov replies that it favors radical reform and improving life, and that they are not conservatives.

Alksis, from the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic, notes that he has been accused in the Latvian press of being a traitor to his people, and says that the deputy chairman of the Latvian Supreme Soviet has been saying that people who speak against Latvian independence cannot be Latvian citizens. Kudrin says that the group has been accused of not having any ethnic representatives. Alksis replies that this is not true, that the group is internationalist, but many deputies from other republics ask that their membership of the group not be made known.

Kudrin says that the West does not want the splitting up of the Soviet Union. Alksis agrees, saying that if individual republics leave the Union then there is no guarantee of their safety from predatory countries with territorial aims. Tikhonov notes that the West wants to help the USSR to remain intact, because they are frightened of the results of a split.

Alksis concludes by saying that the group wants to hold discussions with its opponents—whom it does not view as enemies—so as to come to a single opinion.

Ligachev Interviewed on Market Transition Program

LD2909154590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0700 GMT 29 Sep 90

[From the "Community Channel" program; interview with Ye.K. Ligachev by unidentified APN correspondent; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] Your questions are already coming in by telephone. And although the ones I am about to mention are not concerned with the theme which has been set they do lead in to the next subject. Who needs an interview with Ligachev?—this question comes from a worker from Urengoy. And here is one from Zavyalov from Moscow: On what basis do you give an interview with Ligachev but do not permit a meeting with Yeltsin? The Community video channel has carried an interview with Boris Niolayevich [Yeltsin] and then several interviews were prepared by correspondents of the Sovetskaya Rossiya program, the Sovetskaya Rossiya video channel. And they have also been shown on the First Program and the video channel.

In general, the fate of people from the top echelon of power is as inscrutable as the ways of the Lord. And it only needs one of them to fall from the ranks of the nomenklatura then, as the saying goes, even their names are forgotten. But times change. And here is a former member of the Politburo who was, for example, for a long time the second man in the country, the manager and ideologist of the Food Program, Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev.

There are stubborn rumors that he has gone off into the country to write his memoirs. Nothing of the sort. Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev is a people's deputy of the USSR and lives a full life as a politician. An IAN correspondent interviewed him:

[Correspondent] What is your attitude to today's discussion which evidently will end this evening or tomorrow? What is your attitude? What are the roots of the disagreements?

[Ligachev] I think that there is a wide divergence of opinions. As yet I cannot see.... although at the end the speakers usually say that they do not agree with something or other but then say let us take it as a basis. I think that there is still a wide divergence of opinions. And I think that there does not yet exist any unity to adopt this document heart and soul. And so it is surely quite right for this to be adopted as some sort of basis with subsequent serious clarification.

[Correspondent] You are referring to the Shatalin program?

[Ligachev] I am referring to the presidential program. If it is at all possible subsequently to combine them together.

[Correspondent] So, you are in favor of the presidential program?

[Ligachev] Yes. But I consider that this government should implement this programme.

[Correspondent] So, the government should not resign?

[Ligachev] No, not at all. If it is possible to reach agreement on two major issues—that our Union should not be an assemblage of free republics which are not obliged by anything to anyone but should be a single federative state; not a confederation or some sort of free community. For, without this I think that it will not be possible to implement any reform at all. That is one of the most important conditions. And the second condition is—and Ligachev's stand on this matter is unchanged—that I am categorically against private property. I consider that private property will not make it easier to carry out reform, but harder. Let us remember how our people received the so-called speculative cooperatives. They simply rebelled.

[Correspondent] But is a market without private property possible?

[Ligachev] Yes, it is. And a market does not yet mean just relations of private producers. The market can also be mutual relations between socialist producers. I, for example, consider that what Comrade Gorbachev said two days ago is very interesting. For some reason no one speaks of it. This is the first time—here one can take issue with Mikhail Sergeyevich—but for the first time, from theoretical and practical points of view, it has been shown that through the market one can decide the socialist idea. That is highly original, though there are a number of points on which I cannot agree. But in principle this is a very interesting trend. So I am for a socialist market. I am for a planned market economy. I consider, for instance, that such an attitude to the historical experience we have amassed over the decades, of planned management of the economy, is an absolute impossibility. [Correspondent tries to interrupt] Excuse me, I want to finish. And the point is not that we want to destroy the command and administrative system: we want to, and rightly. We are destroying the planned economy. That is what we are doing. That is where the trouble lies. That is what is at issue, under the flag of the so- called destruction of the command and administrative system.

[Correspondent] Can you explain, at the same time, how you understand the question what is a socialist market?

[Ligachev] It is a market that is based on public ownership of production. [Correspondent] So that is the position?

[Ligachev] That is my position. And I am talking about privatization in general, or plurality of forms of ownership in general, but of plurality of forms of socialist ownership. Of a plurality of forms of public ownership. That is my principled position. And in that case private ownership does not arise. And you know, I will tell you that the fact is that with us it broke down, in many of the socialist countries, to a certain extent—to a certain extent, it is not the main factor—is due to the presence there of a very large sector of so-called private enterprise.

[Correspondent] I see. And finally, tell me, how can the government...

[Ligachev, interrupting] Why are you interviewing me anyway?

[Correspondent] But how can—a brief last reply—how can the government—you say you stand on the platform of the presidential program, you support it. And at the same time you say the government must...

[Ligachev, interrupting] I said there were two conditions.

[Correspondent] Very well, on two conditions. But is there not a contradiction? Can the government introduce the program and put it into practice?

[Ligachev] That is why in the draft that has been submitted, it is suggested that it be taken as a basis, but further work needs to be done on it. I do not know whether we will manage to get those people together to finalize it, but it was to be done.

[Correspondent] And time is short.

[Ligachev] It does not matter, there is no need to rush it. The whole trouble is that we are in too much of a hurry. We are in a hurry. But we have to do the simplest thing: consistently, gradually, and unswervingly.

[Correspondent] Very many thanks.

[Unidentified speaker] Yegor Kuzmich, Yegor Kuzmich, a question from a nonparty person about the former leaders of the party. How do you feel about the leaders of party, rayon, city and oblast soviets—who now, in the difficult situation, with the prestige of the party declining, are still grabbing all they can: dachas, cars, even subscriptions—petty things like that—they have grabbed it all: secretaries of rayon committees, and it is impermissible. What do you think of them?

[Ligachev] Let me say this. All my life—I can say this with full responsibility—I have proved that I have always hated these people. I have to tell you that the Politburo—the Politburo knows that. I bear the main burden of the struggle with the Kunayevs and the Shelashidovs and many others: no one but me. I investigated, I produced the evidence, I spoke at the plenums. I will say that often again. In this my conscience is clear. I would just ask you—I know you as a very sincere, very passionate man: do not generalize. Do not generalize, that all rayon committee secretaries...

[Speaker] I did not say all.

[Ligachev] I have been close to it for 70 years. I am speaking of my Orenburg people. Are they harming the party? They are not harming the party any longer.

[Speaker] Well, the Orenburg people are a specific case.

[Ligachev] I was there for 70 years, and I worked no less than you, knowing neither sleep nor rest. And I am proud of that. But you are condemning them. [words indistinct] I consider that that is the greatest harm that is being done to us now. Why, for instance, was it believed at first that Ligachev was a bribe-taker? I thought about that a great deal. Why did some people believe it? Why? Because—well, why not believe them, if there are Kunayevs, if there are Kunayevs, if there are Rashidovs, then why cannot others be taking bribes? Therefore I did not accuse my people, my party. Instead I proved what I am like and what I must be like.

Prokofyev Views Economic, Political Situation

LD2809124890 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Yuriy Prokofyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Moscow City party committee, assessed the situation in Moscow and in the country as a whole as extraordinary in his interview with TASS correspondents.

All the signs are there: a fall in production and disruption of economic links with unrestrained rise in wages. Even though there was a good harvest, there is virtually no fruit and vegetables in the capital. The prospects for winter are also well-known.

Yuriy Prokofeyev called the political situation no less complex. Approximately 20 parties are active in the country; they have declared themselves all-Union structures. However, most parties and movements do not carry out any constructive activities, their activities are often of a destructive nature.

The firt secretary of the Moscow City party committee reported that in accordance with the latest data about 70,000 people left the CPSU in the capital's organisation, in the same period of time 9,000 people joined the party. Incidentally, those joining are mainly young people and there are more representatives of intelligentsia than workers among them.

Yuriy Prokofyev reported that the city party committee joined the assistance fund for the unemployed, which was set up at the initiative of the RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA newspaper. The capital's communists intend to support 250,000 Moscow pensioners—CPSU members—from their own funds.

Republic Leaders Meet on Intergovernment Contacts

LD2809184690 Moscow TASS in English 1834 GMT 28 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Albert Maloveryan]

[Text] Tallinn September 28 TASS—Heads and representatives of governments of the Baltic republics, Armenia, Belorussia, Kirghizia, Moldavia, Tajikistan and the Russian Federation, who met here today, discussed the establishment of intergovernmental contacts and direct links between republics, as well as the creation of an inter-republican market.

A protocol was signed on the results of the meeting which envisages, among other things, the creation of an intergovernmental consultative committee. The document was not signed by representatives of Tajikistan and Belorussia, explaining it by the fact that they do not have the authority to do so.

Bilateral agreements on economic cooperation were concluded by Lithuania and Kirghizia and by Latvia and Kirghizia.

The Baltic republics were represented at the meeting by the heads of government, and the rest of the participants—by deputy heads of government or ministers. The meeting was also attended by Chairman of the Leningrad City Council Anatoliy Sobchak.

'People's Self-Government' Movement Formed

LD2809222990 Moscow TASS in English 2100 GMT 28 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Vladimir Dunaevskiy]

[Text] The Russian Social-Democratic and Socialist Parties, Moscow's Greens, the Confederation of Anarcho-Syndicalists and the Marxist and Democratic Platforms of the CPSU have united into the "people's self-government" movement, organisers announced here on Friday [28 September].

The new movement aims to "overcome the false alternative between totalitarianism and monopolised market capitalism", they said.

They said they disagree in principle with "the position of some 'democratic' organisations, trying to impose on the country an agreement between the bureaucracy and proponents of non-critical copying of the Western model of society".

By manipulating public conscience the "reformed" part of the Communist Party apparatus and liberal intellectuals are plotting another social experiment which will leave power and property in the hands of the bureaucracy and shadow economy dealers, they said.

Organisers said the movement supports the right of work collectives to determine forms of property ownership, the right of local councils to control land and natural

resources and the right of republics and other territorial units to determine their status and want the abolishment of an executive presidency in the Soviet Union.

Economic

Shatalin Discusses Market Plan

LD2909000190 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1750 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Interview with USSR Presidential Council member Stanislav Sergeyevich Shatalin and Aleksandr Ivanovich Tizyakov, president of the USSR Association of State Enterprises, by correspondent Sergey Slipchenko; place and date not given; from the "Topical Interview" program]

[Text] [Slipchenko] Everyone says that, on one hand, very rapid and drastic measures are needed and, on the other hand, everyone is afraid of extraordinary measures. Can the latest presidential decree on urgent measures to stabilize economic relations in the fourth quarter of the year be regarded as an extraordinary economic measure on the part of the president?

[Shatalin] If we are to speak seriously, then of course we are dealing with extraordinary measures to stabilize the economy, to stabilize economic relations.

What needs to be stressed here? The country, the union parliament, and the parliaments of all republics are discussing the concept for the switch to a market economy; it's not a program for a market economy, but a concept for transitioning to a market economy, which requires very harsh measures to stabilize the national economy, measures on finance, credit, fiscal policy—in other words, taxation—monetary policy, and so on. I think this sort of decree—which, let us be frank, is a combination of, quote, administrative, unquote, and market measures—is a natural part of a program for stabilizing the economy, a program that must secure a more or less painless entry for all enterprises and the entire economy into a track of market development. This is a very important point, and, in this sense, there is nothing antimarket in this, although, I repeat again, administrative measures are also being used. Everyone realizes that the end of this year and 1991 must be a time of very harsh economic policy; thus, we should not take this as some sort of retreat from a market economy. That is the first thing I wanted to say.

The second important thing is this: State orders are on the decline. This is appropriate. Nevertheless, in the fourth quarter and 1991 state orders will, I repeat, be necessary. They will be needed, above all, for strategic items.

The important thing to stress is that in 1991 conditions are already being created, conditions ought to be created—and just such an accord exists with the republics—to enable state orders to become essentially contractual orders, to enable them to become economically advantageous for all enterprises.

I will tell you that in the West all the most efficient corporations in the world fight for the state order, for government purchases...

[Slipchenko, interrupting] Fight over them.

[Shatalin] Literally, fight over them. One must not forget that the subject of the market is the entrepreneur, in whatever form he takes. The role of the market is not as state regulator, but as producer. Therefore, it is very correct that the decree emphasizes that one must not interfere, even though this is the interim period, in the affairs of enterprises. This is necessary, because the bodies of authority are beginning to abuse this. In the final analysis, this leads to the economic efficiency of all actions, of the whole economy, only falling.

Anyway, the focus of the market, I will emphasize this once more, is the enterprises, and the enterprises must have the change of operating on the all-union market and even, as is well-known, of plugging in to the world market. It seems to me that this also should be underlined.

[Slipchenko] That is, the bodies of authority, the local authorities, at the most varied levels, must not interfere in precisely economic operation, economic activity and business, what is just appearing now in embryonic form.

[Shatalin] I think you have answered very correctly. Any declarations on independence, which are undoubtedly correct, and on economic sovereignty, which are also right, must now consider that bodies of authority must realize that the functioning of enterprises is central and that this must really cement the all- union market.

[Slipchenko] Stanislav Sergeyevich, many people simply do not accept the phrase market economy, and you said exactly this at the very beginning, an accurate combination of this and that.

Is a state-planned market economy possible?

[Shatalin] No; well, of course, it's impossible. Obviously, the state ought not to engage in economic activity; it ought to create the conditions, the rules of the game, so that normal conditions can be created for business enterprise. That is the main task.

As Solovyev said: The state does not exist to turn life on earth into a paradise, but to prevent that life from finally turning into hell. I think that needs to be remembered.

When we speak now of state interference, first we assume that that interference will be more adequate, that it will use not only administrative but also economic market methods; although it has to be said plainly that, during this time, we're going to have to go on using to a considerable extent the measures we call—sometimes, I think, not very happily—administrative methods of

maintaining economic links. Otherwise, we will be allowing... [changes thought] We will get to the point where the economy will collapse altogether. That has to be emphasized.

One might also comment on the previous decree on extra rights, say, for the president. It is not a question of some usurpation of power, and so forth; that is absurd. What it does include are specific conditions that require the president to take extra measures, above all on the economy. Those measures are being brought in for the transition period, until 31 March, the period that can be considered a period of stabilization and preparation of conditions for the country's transition to a market economy. So, these decrees are very compatible; they create the conditions needed if this is to be done deftly and in a timely manner at all levels of management. Thus, and only thus, can the country survive, and only thus can we approach a more or less stabilized economy that will later enter with increasing confidence into the system of real market relations.

[Slipchenko] This is question for you, Aleksandr Ivanovich, as president of the country's Association of State Enterprises. How will our industrialists, our producers, perceive such a decree? Enthusiastically or as an attempt, once again, to throttle them and to wrench economic independence from them?

[Tizyakov] Some enterprises have already been forced to come to a halt as a result of, well, severed economic links imposed either by state orders or by direct links, that is to say, by agreements. Well, that very complex situation is taking shape. As industrialists in our association, we have been proposing for quite some time now the need for adopting a document, law, or decree on measures to stabilize the economy, considering the existing links; the restoration of a number of enterprises, especially those dealing with chemical production; and the ecological issue. Many of them may be restored today, for there are no materials now that have been halted, materials that involve the whole technological chain; and if we say that chemical production has come to a halt, that does not mean to say that a machine-building factory will come to a halt tomorrow. That is absolutely precise.

All must work in a very organized way so that when a complex situations arise it will be possible to introduce a special regime of operation.

I think the USSR Council of Ministers will determine that range of operation, and probably then conditions will be created for more favorable work for many enterprises. We need this today because part of production cannot be transported out. Rural dwellers today are coming up against the problem of transporting agricultural produce; the harvest has to be brought in. That is also a very important feature in that decree. I am convinced that all state enterprises will support that decree widely and will undertake every measure to fulfill it.

On 30-31 August, at a sitting of the Presidential Council and of the Council of the Federation, all the republics came out in favor of and all said, the first thing that everybody spoke of was the need to stabilize the economy. The measures named then are those laid forth in that decree.

[Slipchenko] Has the time come for harsh measures?

[Shatalin] May I speak about that?

[Slipchenko] Yes.

[Shatalin] You know, yes, the time for harsh measures really has come. Once again, I return to the program on the transition to the market economy that is now being discussed by everyone. That decree may be implemented, and it must be recognized quite clearly that without authority at all levels, at all levels of management, all decrees, all concepts will be just papers because survival now is only possible provided that harsh, timely, coordinated measures are implemented at that time which would make it possible to proceed.

It is not a question of somebody usurping power, and so forth. These measures are within the limits of the law; they do not, as they say, call for heads to roll. It is a question of there being harsh measures on the budget, on the monetary systems, and on production.

A series of harsh, precise, timely, and coordinated measures is needed to prepare the national economy, and I would like stress once again, to make it more or less clear—take note, take note—that the decree says the Council of Ministers must be asked to provide these enterprises with resources; foreign currency; raw materials; with everything that is necessary to resolve ecological problems, too. Again, as you can see, it is intended here that these enterprises function only for a set time. If these measures are inadequate, then it may be possible at the end of 1991 to return to these enterprises again; and if they do not come up to, so to speak, the ecological criteria of normal developments, they may be closed.

[Slipchenko] All the work that is now being done in our country is directed toward one thing: improving people's lives, making life easier. But, if you take this decree and the previous decree, which give the president greater powers, you get the feeling that this is making life harder. It's doing the opposite, making it more complicated, shall we say, both for industry and for each citizen, each person. Is this so? People expect improvement, but instead get a harder life, a worse life.

[Tizyakov] As for putting things in order, there is always improvement. The decree we are discussing is, after all, aimed at only one thing: to bring order and discipline so that we can organize normally the work of industry and of the branches of the national economy. If we do not have discipline, which has recently been seriously shaken... [changes thought] We have had all these positive changes.

If you look at all these major accidents, they are also linked to discipline, to the qualitative aspect. This is what enables us to start functioning normally.

Speaking of the market, the market is a very tough discipline, and if you do not have inner discipline, discipline of the whole collektive, it will be impossible to survive in the market.

[Shatalin] Your question is very precise and very difficult. I want to stress again that, without programs and decrees sporting well-reviewed mechanisms of power—power which must now be very tough in all spheres, at least in the economy—nothing at all will get done. This decree or any program will be a heap of promises, will be one more attempt to feed someone with words, words, words—an attempt which, as we know, has more than once ended in complete bankruptcy.

Therefore, a problem of power exists. It has not been solved, but only such power... [changes thought] One should not think that powers are being given to the president so that heads may roll. We have got to remake the laws so that the law will be executed. That is what the new presidential powers and the adoption of the acts we spoke of earlier, which make it possible to solve complex problems operationally, are all about.

We must recognize this. If the parliament were to vote now to let the president do whatever comes into his head, the president himself would not accept such measures. The point is that we must follow the law; act in the name of the law; be tough; and support the governments or first persons of, let us say, all sovereign states and all sovereign republics, and not just be with them. That is very important.

Now, let us see... the toughness. So, it is said if the people are afraid, it will be tougher. Yes, it will be tougher; but, you know, we must move away from this social parasitism. We must now move away from levelling out. We must now move away from black market redistribution. We must now move away from mob rule. We must now move away from the philosophy of sharing and nonproduction. We must. But, of course, if we make the transition to a normal market economy, as has already been correctly stressed, discipline will be very harsh.

But, is it really a good thing that we should have to provide a healthy man, one who could work, with social protection? This is irresponsibility. So, at the rostrum, we are demanding foodstuffs, we are demanding a rise in living standards; but, at the same time, we do not want to be responsible people who... [changes thought] We want to remain people who can bring things to eat, to wear, to put on our feet, and so on. It is as if we have an unlimited quantity of resources. The market means harshnesses. It is not only a matter of ownership, not only of right, but it is a gigantic responsibility. The property owner is the most unfortunate person in the world because he bears a frightening responsibility.

On this issue of harshness: This is an issue which is also about people really understanding that one of the most important social guarantees is the fact that one should have the opportunity to prove oneself; but one should take responsibility for oneself, as well. I will say once again that healthy people who have also become used to being parasites—I do not want to accuse anyone, and I am to a full extent applying these words to myself as well—should struggle, should be responsible, and should not just demand—give me a small office, I do not want to do anything big, this is how we are accustomed to living. This is finished with here. This should be understood, for good.

Of course, I do not think we are speaking about the disabled here, nor about pensioners; and naturally, these strata of the population should without question be socially protected, obviously, of course, unconditionally, by the state, the Union as a whole, the republics. But it is immoral to protect healthy people, to protect idlers who have become accustomed to sharing, robbing, and taking away and to doing nothing and receiving a salary. There are many people who are below the boundary, beneath the legal minimum, who do not want to work. [words indistinct]

If it is a matter of this lack of provision being connected with the fact that in families with pensioners there are many children, this is another issue. The state should help these families. But if this lack of provision is connected with the fact that people do not want to work, are doing things for show, and for this reason receive a small salary, they should not be protected under any circumstances.

So far as some proposals on the transition to a market economy are being connected with my name, I think you all understand very well that no program, either by the government or by the president or by the groups of Petrov, Shatalin, or Sidorov, promises any manna from heaven, as it were, or any rise in the standard of living to that of America, or France, or anyone else. No. This will take a long time yet.

[Tizyakov] Neither while it is being carried out nor on its completion.

[Shatalin] Yes, if it is this program, if one speaks seriously, it is not 500 days. This has become a cliche, let us say; a cliche because we deliberately selected it, beginning with the fact if we drive ourselves into a corner, in order to later (?acknowledge) that we have driven ourselves into a corner, things should be done in such a way that it is possible to exit this corner eulogising, courageously. [sentence as heard] If we have driven ourselves into a corner, then muscles should be flexed, as it were. Sluggishness should be thrown aside. We should do what needs to be done. Or nothing at all should be done. This is what should all be born in mind.

So, it is not a question of 500 days followed by 1,000 years of happiness [word indistinct] a heavenly realm in which everyone will be fed and satisfied and live better

than the Swiss and the Americans. No, it is a question of gradually creating the conditions for our economy to become normal, sensible, and quite efficient. To do this, we must use the experience of the West and the East and proceed along our own normal path, bearing in mind that much in the world has already been done, thought out, and so on.

The problems will not be resolved in 500 or 700 days. The main task is to stabilize and stop the reduction, the decline of the economy, to stop. If we are fortunate to raise the rouble exchange rate, to boost its strength and make it into something like a currency—at the moment our currency is all barter—for if we live our whole lives with a barter market, we shall end up being a super-underdeveloped country. We may end up in quite a (?medieval)...

[Tizyakov, interrupting] There are two points on which we producers vote for the market: motivation of people—in this I agree with Stanislav Sergeyevich—and, most importantly, even more importantly, motivation for the application of scientific and technical progress. It is only through it and in this way that we can today solve the task of raising living standards. In the end, productivity is most important. So, attitudes toward work and productivity are the two foundations upon which we must find a path via the market economy and solve the task of raising living standards.

[Slipchenko] Stanislav Sergeyevich, can a market economy be installed by decrees and purely administrative measures?

[Shatalin] Well, if it seems to you and our viewers that this is nothing but an administrative decree, I can assure you as someone who knows about these things that there will soon be some presidential decrees of, if you like, a market type on various aspects of entrepreneurialism, the organization of the market, and various aspects of free enterprise. This will be done, once again, as always, after agreement with the republics; the autonomous entities; and, of course, with the entrepreneurs, if you like (?so that it is) not three, four, or half a year, as we have already discussed, but very rapid coordination, a rapid agreement. For these decisions to be put into effect promptly, we need decrees that will make it possible to act immediately.

[Slipchenko] Thank you for this conversation. I think your numerous explanations made not only this decree but also the future economic policy clear or clearer for many people.

Shatalin on Administrative Moves on Economy

LD2809194990 Moscow TASS in English 1925 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow September 28 TASS—The decree of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev on urgent measures for stabilising economic ties in the fourth quarter of 1990 is not a departure from the market-oriented economy towards the administrative-command system, says academician Shatalin, one of the architects of the radical transformation of the Soviet economy. Speaking on Soviet television today, he stressed that the decreee "blends in a natural way" with the programme of the stabilisation of the national economy ensuring the Soviet Union's transition to a market-based economy.

According to academician Shatalin, member of the Presidential Council, when we speak about the state's interference in the economy, we mean the use not only of administrative, but also of economic levers. However, in order to prevent the economy from a total collapse, administrative measures are also needed. They will be "tough and will be put into effect simultaneously on all levels" for the purpose of stabilising the economy, which will confidently advance towards a market-oriented system.

All this does not mean the "usurping of power by the president", Shatalin stressed. All these emergency measures will be taken within the framework of the law.

Economist Predicts Decree on Foreign Ownership

AU3009192990 Paris AFP in English 1848 GMT 30 Sep 90

Paris, Sept 30 (AFP)—The Soviet economy needs a massive injection of "10 to 12 million dollars at the minimum" to pay for consumer goods in order to prime the transition to a market economy, according to Nikolay Petrakov, an economic adviser to President Mikhail Gorbachev.

In an interview appearing Monday in the financial daily LA TRIBUNE DE L'EXPANSION, Mr. Petrakov also said the Soviet president will issue a decree "in a few days" authorising the creation of completely foreign-owned subsidiaries in the Soviet Union. The system for creating joint ventures, which has so far been excessively bureaucratic, will be modified, as will the fiscal system, Mr. Petrakov said.

A solution to the problem of repatriating capital will also be found, he said, without stating precisely how this will be achieved, and the exchange rate for the ruble "will be modified later." The ruble is not convertible into other currencies, a major factor in limiting foreign investment since investors are unable to take their profits out of the country in the form of cash.

Mr. Gorbachev has just been granted extraordinary powers to speed the transition to a market economy, but Mr. Petrakov said the process could not begin while stores remain empty. "To begin the market, we need a massive injection of all kinds of consumer goods," Mr. Petrakov said. "Several people—banks, government and businesses—have already offered us loans for that. We need 10 to 12 billion dollars at the minimum."

To make the transition to a market economy, Mr. Petrakov said the Soviet Union had to "break the

monopolistic structures" of the ministries, transform large industries into private share-owned businesses, privatise smaller businesses and open the economy to international competition. Mr. Petrakov also said he had prepared "a kind of black envelope" for Mr. Gorbachev containing advice on very strict and concrete measures to be taken immediately in case of unexpected difficulties.

"All the scenarios, even the most negative, have been foreseen. Whatever happens, we will not caught unprepared," he said.

Official Details 'Economic Crimes' Figures

LD2509145190 Moscow TASS in English 1433 GMT 25 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Borisov]

[Text] Moscow September 25 TASS—Over 188,000 crimes in the economic area in the USSR were revealed over eight months of the current year. 132 million roubles were confiscated under cases of economic crimes. The number of persons brought to criminal responsibility for speculation in large amounts doubled on last year. This information was cited at a briefing at the Soviet Interior Ministry today.

Vyacheslav Runyshkov, chief of the Soviet Interior Ministry's main agency for combatting embezzlements of socialist property, said that abuses were discovered at every second out of the 160 thousand trading enterprises where the agency held inspections this year. 1.5 thousand cases of the supply of large batches of goods to profiteers or illegal issuing of goods to cooperatives were checked.

Runyshkov said that only in September of this year Moscow was short of the funded deliveries of 16.5 thousand tonnes of milk, one thousand tonnes of yogurt and more than nine million eggs. On September 20, meat was not on sale in 650 stores in Moscow, sausages in 799, eggs in 1,096, sugar in 1,803. Things are not better in all other large cities of the Soviet Union.

Provided all enterprises fulfil the plan the country's population will be supplied with medicines to meet 32 per cent of the requirements, and with taking into account imports, possibly to 68.

"It is often said that all this is a result of actions of some destructive forces or the mafia," Runyshkov said. "I declare that neither the Interior Ministry nor the KGB of the USSR have established this. What is at hand is just negligence."

Runyshkov cited the example when the state order for grain procurements is not being fulfilled. He believes this is explained by the fact that purchase prices do not suit collective and state farms. Meanwhile cooperatives are prepared to offer two or three times more and buy up grain.

Runyshkov said that it is pointless to try to resolve the problem only by legal measures. He believes that only the staff can and must put things in order.

'Reactionar' Forces Blamed for Food Shortages

904D0236A Moscow ARGUMENTY I FAKTY in Russian No 38, 22-28 Sep 90 p 2

[Interview with S. Stankevich, first deputy chairman of the Moscow City Soviet of People's Deputies, by ARGUMENTY I FAKTY correspondent L. Novikova: "Syndrome of the Center"; place and date not given; first three paragraphs are ARGUMENTY I FAKTY introduction]

[Text] Against the background of an overall difficult situation in the country in recent times, the state of affairs in Moscow and Leningrad especially is sharply exacerbated. As a result of an artificial breach in vitally important economic ties and the growing isolation of these cities, they are becoming victims of an undeclared blockade. For over eight months there has been a delivery shortfall of meat to Moscow of 11 percent and to Leningrad of 27 percent. There is every reason to suppose that reactionary apparat forces, having suffered quite appreciable defeats in elections in Moscow and Leningrad, are presently attempting to smother these two sources of "democratic plague." Unfortunately, realization of their plans is being objectively facilitated by local organs of power. Being fed by their apparat cliques, these organs are rousing anti-Moscow and anti-Leningrad sentiment, and are disorganizing the economy of the two major cities—weakened even without this influence. The fate of democratic movements in Russia overall—and perhaps not only in Russia—depends on the fate of democracy in Moscow and Leningrad. Here is where the process of our political liberation began and splashed over into Eastern Europe.

Realizing the full seriousness of the situation that has occurred concerning Moscow and Leningrad, the Interregional Deputies Group [MDG] appeals to democratic forces of all republics not to allow the blockade of these cities, not to sever economic ties with them. The MDG calls upon organs of local power to assert their political authority to avoid introducing disorganization and a split in democratic structures, to oppose provocation, and to consolidate the efforts of democrats in seeking a way out of the deepening crisis. (This appeal was adopted at a general conference of the Interregional Deputies Group).

Publishing the appeal, our editors considered it necessary to comment on it. Our correspondent L. Novikova made this request of USSR People's Deputy S. Stankevich, first deputy chairman of the Moscow City Soviet of People's Deputies.

[Novikova] I do not think I will be saying anything untrue if I state that a good half of our 33 million readers will be unspeakably astonished at the idea of such a

blockade of the capital. What will people say next? For a long time Moscow was treated as a special city, an "islet of communism."

[Stankevich] For those who have been away from Moscow for a long time, I would like to explain that the capital is far from being that city whose very name was associated with privileges, special deliveries, and all kinds of other benefits. Today's Moscow visitors see that the capital is living just like the country as a whole, even worse in certain cases. Prices on the market, for example, are two and a half or three times higher than the average across the country, and the selection of goods is poorer to a great degree.

[Novikova] In your view, how can this be explained?

[Stankevich] The reason is quite obvious—nothing "special" exists for Moscow today. Supplemental funds for Moscow have been rerouted to the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] oblasts in accordance with agreements with these oblasts and the Russian Government. We believe that Moscow and Moscow residents should feel the same burdens that lie on the shoulders of any other USSR citizens. But to this sense of fairness is added an artificially created situation.

[Novikova] What do you mean?

[Stankevich] It is in Moscow and Leningrad that economic sanctions are being applied. Established economic ties are being severed, one right after another. Deliveries of sugar to Moscow from the Ukraine have been stopped, for instance. I just met with deputies of this republic and found out from them that in Zhitomir, for example, sugar is simply disappearing. The same is happening in Western Ukraine. How can this be explained? Gasoline delivery to the Ukraine by the Russian Government was short, and shipments of sugar to Moscow—associated with the government—are being stopped.

Furthermore, mixed fodder shipments to the Baltic region were short, and so they immediately stopped delivery of meat to Moscow. Deputies informed us from Nizhnevartovsk that there was an attempt to shut down fuel deliveries to Moscow, which was averted by democratically oriented deputies of the city soviet. Local leaders—not without the counsel of their apparat strategists, apparently—are thus simply asserting themselves, as if to say—there, we've rubbed the capital's nose in it, now we'll stop what is being delivered there through our territory! And by virtue of this, they appear in the eyes of some to be virtual heroes, leading the struggle against the hated center.

[Novikova] I heard the same thing in Leningrad... Perhaps this is related to the fact that they want to suffocate the "breeding grounds of democracy"?

[Stankevich] Yes. In the eyes of conservatives, apparatchiks, and party functionaries, Moscow and Leningrad are "breeding grounds of the democratic plague." For this reason the Interregional Deputies Group—of which, by the way, just 20 percent are from Moscow and Leningrad—adopted this document.

[Novikova] Well, will we wait, or break through the blockade?

[Stankevich] We are not waiting—we are acting. First of all, we are establishing direct contacts with the soviets. Although it is difficult to vouch for their stability right now. I do not relate this just to the inevitable transition period. I have the feeling that for many people remaining in power, the principle of "the worse things are the better it is" remains the norm of activity—as if to say, there you go, there's your democracy!

But the problems Moscow and Leningrad are undergoing are not specific to them. There are also irregularities and curtailment with bread in Komsomolsk-on-Amur, and you cannot explain this through problems in Moscow industry. We see a similar situation in many major cities.

[Novikova] Well, is the Moscow City Soviet attempting somehow to stabilize the situation? Have you tried, let us say, to offer Moscow residents working on cultivating vegetables payment in kind, so that they might at least support themselves?

[Stankevich] This is already being done. Teams of Muscovites are being formed and sent to the oblast daily. The Moscow City Soviet has allocated well more than one million rubles of its funds to pay those who have joined these ranks. It will be possible to earn 20-25 rubles a day working in the field, and a portion of the harvest can be earmarked for "family storage." However, not relying on oblast capabilities alone, as a precaution we conducted talks with a number of European states on supplemental shipments of meats and vegetables.

[Novikova] But when will the question of providing land to Muscovites be resolved? After all, this, too, is a way of escaping the crisis.

[Stankevich] This question has long been a pressing issue. The delay is due to the fact that our land problem with the oblast has not been conclusively settled. And the issue is not so much with the oblast leadership, but with the leadership of state farms [sovkhozes] and collective farms [kolkhozes]. Thousands of hectares of land have not been worked for decades, and at the same time have not been provided to the people who could have worked them. I think we will decide the issue this autumn, and Muscovites will obtain land. By coordination with the president of the country and decision of the Russian government, a commission has been established to draw up a draft resolution for the Moscow region.

Aviation Enterprises Exhibit Declassified Goods

PM2609131590 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 6

[A. Kuvshinnikov report under the rubric "Details for IZVESTIYA": "Exhibition of Former Secrets"]

[Text] The USSR Ministry of the Aviation Industry has declassified the output of a number of its leading production associations and research institutes.

Previously the Ministry of the Aviation Industry exhibition hall in Setun was well known in the Soviet military-industrial complex as the venue of secret intersectorial exhibitions where specialists of the nine defense departments shared their experience.

This time 11 leading science and production associations and scientific research institutes of the Ministry of the Aviation Industry presented their designs openly and for commercial purposes. The main section of the display, organized under the leadership of A. Bratukhin, USSR deputy minister of the aviation industry, was devoted naturally to a demonstration of advanced aerospace technology.

The "star" of the show is a unique gas turbine engine vane with a monocrystalline base. It is not made by casting or by forging but is cultivated in a very real sense. Its main attribute is its tremendous reliability. The monocrystalline base precludes minute cracks and bubbles entirely. As I found out, several large Western firms are interested in establishing joint production of these vanes.

The fact that in many instances the exhibition shows the finished product alongside the relevant production technology does not mean, of course, that the ministry is ready to sell off everything. If, for example, someone wants to buy thermal insulation tiles of the type used on the Soviet space shuttle Buran, there is no problem. The composition of the tile has been declassified, and the existing capacities are capable of producing any amount that you want. You can have the finished product, but in this case the technology is still "not for export." It is extremely important to note that the logic of the restrictions is dictated not by some abstract notion of secrecy but primarily by commercial common sense.

A considerable part of the display is given over to by-products resulting from the conversion process. The goods presented here are of excellent quality: sports equipment made from composite materials, very strong light-alloy car wheels, car window glass which deflects stones without scratching, nonrusting glass nails for use in wood and tin plate...

The fact that such goods are being developed arouses nothing but positive feelings. But why are the considerable capacities of Ministry of the Aviation Industry enterprises being diverted to produce them at the will of the Council of Ministers and the State Planning Committee? Ill-considered and uncoordinated plans for consumer goods production often serve as a direct brake on the production of the main output, in this case civil aircraft.

Advanced technology, including aerospace technology, undoubtedly can and must be used to produce consumer goods. But it is with good reason that aviation firms throughout the world do not trade in consumer goods but in technology used to produce them. Carbon fiber aircraft parts are made at one plant, tennis rackets from the same material at a completely different plant. Has anyone heard of Boeing frying pans? The Ministry of the Aviation Industry's job is to produce aircraft. The more the better, especially in the case of civil aircraft.

Declining Output at Kuzbass Mines Raises Fears

PM2609101390 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 23 Sep 90

[Report by N. Chirkov; from the "Vremya" newscastn]

[Text] [Chirkov] I really do not know whether it is worth sounding the alarm when, according to the tradition of the last few years, rush work will follow and the heroic Kuzbass miners and railroad workers will wipe out their debts. Nonetheless, I will begin this report from the beginning, so to speak. I will begin with the 600,000 furnaces that are without heat through the fault of the Kuzbass. Black piles of fuel that had not been shipped out were quite recently to be found at many coal dumps in the Kuzbass. It would even burn, going to waste. Today there is virtually no fuel there. With the possible exception of the new mining areas where, in the hunt for cheap fuel, they have forgotten to build spur tracks or construct stations. Here is an interesting point. In comparison with last year, receipt of empty freight cars has increased, but the difficulties involved in loading them have also increased. by 8 million tonnes. What will there then be to load? What is more, mining enterprises have increasingly begun to refuse to help railroad workers repair damaged, unserviceable freight cars. Since the beginning of the year alone they have received more than 200,000 of them. [V.I. Ivanov, deputy chief of the Kemerovo Railroad transportation service] Our work would be far easier if we had full information from the miners as to the location of the coal and how to obtain it as quickly as possible. But mining associations are late in providing us with this information, we have to plan and dispatch the empty freight cars a day in advance. We are particularly worried by the fact that so far this year Kuzbass mining enterprises have extracted 5 million tonnes less coal than last year. During the first 15 days in September the lag amounted to something in the order of 1.8-1.9 million tonnes. What kind of shape are we going to be in for winter this year?

Leningrad Foundries Hit by Water Glass Shortage

PM2509104590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 21 Sep 90

[Report of an interview with K.M. Myashnikov, chief metallurgical production engineer at the "Kirovskiy Zavod" Production association and A.B. Muravyev, director of the "Lenstroykeramika" Plant, by V. Batalov and V. Zhuravlev, from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] Delivery shortfalls are starting to affect various sectors.

[Reporter] It looks as though planned shipments of tractors, turbines, and gas-pumping units will soon be threatened. The foundries of leading Leningrad enterprises are on the brink of shutdown. Water glass is needed for many technological processes. And without it the metallurgists will be unable to keep the fires burning in their melting furnaces.

[Myasnikov] The situation is extremely critical at present. The association's stocks of water glass at the moment are enough for around three to four days' work. We have to try somehow to influence our customers so that they in turn will influence enterprises in the Ukraine region manufacturing impure sodium disilicate for Leningrad's Lenstroykeramika Plant, which produces water glass for us.

[Reporter] We went to the storage facility at Lenstroykeramika. These pieces of impure sodium disilicate are neither here nor there, the capacity has come to a halt. The enterprise is suffering enormous losses. But what about the losses that hundreds of associations around the country will be suffering? The Ukraine's glass plants—the Kherson, Lisichansk, and other plants—have only one-third fulfilled their contractual commitments since the start of the year. The reason—a lack of soda ash. Although....

[Muravyev] Soda ash shipments are being received from Leningrad region plants—specifically from the Volkhov and Pikalevo Aluminum Plants. And this is confirmed by the reply from the first deputy minister of the chemical industry that soda is being supplied from these plants at levels of between 91 and 118 percent. But they are entitled, so to speak, to use this soda for other types of output. That won't solve the problem. These plants are promising nothing for next year or are proposing a contract price of 150 rubles [R] per tonne instead of R60. This is unprofitable not only for us but for enterprises which use water glass.

[Reporter] Overzealous enterprise and the desire to make money at others' expense is leading to new shortages and exacerbating the country's already dire situation.

Soviet Economists Dispute Economic Alternatives

AU2509141590 Warsaw TRYBUNA in Polish 22-23 Sep 90 p 4

[Interview with Soviet academicians L. Abalkin and A. Aganbegyan by Krzysztof Pilawski; place and date not given: "Conflict Over Prices"]

[Text] [Pilawski] Mr. Abalkin, the Russian parliament has called on the USSR Government to resign. What is your reaction to this?

[Abalkin] I remain unperturbed. This is just another demonstration. Only the president or the USSR's Supreme Soviet can decide this issue.

[Pilawski] What will happen if the parliament accepts the program presented by Academician Aganbegyan, namely, the Shatalin option?

[Abalkin] If this program is accepted then we will not be responsible for it. His program is unrealistic.

[Pilawski] One of the primary differences between the government and Shatalin and his supporters is the different approach to prices. You have talked of the necessity to review all prices and a once-and-for-all price hike of many products. You also intend to gradually relax price controls, whereas Shatalin considers that one can immediately apply market principles to a wide range of goods without triggering any great price increases.

[Abalkin] Moving into a market economy system without sharp price increases is impossible. Shatalin is camouflaging the increases and does not want to talk openly about them. Our research has shown that if Shatalin's plan is implemented, prices will treble or quadruple before the end of next year.

[Pilawski] Shatalin has stated that there will not be any price hikes, because any existing inflationary pressure can be absorbed by involving people in the privatization process, namely, purchase of their dwellings, purchase of shares, and the leasing of small enterprises.

[Abalkin] This is unrealistic. We had the best experts working on this problem. They researched the savings structure of the population and came to the conclusion that most of the savings are earmarked for a specific aim such as the purchase of a television, furniture, a refrigerator, or a car. No sale of state property will do away with the need to purchases these items. If you are saving up to buy a television, you do not necessarily want to end up buying a store.

[Pilawski] Especially if one notes that the government is very restrained about the sell-off of state property....

[Abalkin] I think that the scale of our privatization project is very much wider than Shatalin's. We hope to absorb the excess of money presently in the economy and issue shares which can be purchased by banks and other enterprises. We have no ideological considerations about selling off stores, restaurants, and services.

[Pilawski] Mr. Aganbegyan, how can you maintain you will implement market prices and at the same time say that they will not rise to any appreciable degree?

[Aganbegyan] The total of all prices should be equal to the money in circulation. Prices cannot rise if people do not have "excess money."

[Pilawski] How will you mop up all this money? You have mentioned that there are approximately 200 billion inflationary rubles in circulation.

[Aganbegyan] We must implement a restrictive financial policy that will concentrate on liquidating our budget deficit and people's income growth. The creation of a

housing, real estate, securities market, the privatization of services, and the introduction of health and welfare contributions will mop up a large amount of excess liquidity in the economy.

[Pilawski] What will increase in price?

[Aganbegyan] Shatalin's team has prepared some forecasts. I think that potatoes and some vegetables will become much more expensive, although they will remain cheaper than street markets.

[Pilawski] What will be cheaper?

[Aganbegyan] All outdated refrigerators, televisions, and plastic goods, as well as man-made fibers.

Baykal-Amur Railroad Makes Profit

PM2509152190 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 22 Sep 90

[Report by V. Kovalchuk; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] We have received the following report from the Baykal-Amur Railroad. In recent months this railroad has started making a profit for the first time in its history. A profit of around 10 million rubles has been obtained since the beginning of the year.

[Reporter] This is Tynda—the key junction on the Baykal-Amur Railroad. Today the railroad's workpace is felt here especially. And what is more, the volume of freight on all sectors of the Baykal-Amur Railroad is increasing with every passing day. You can see this for yourself when you visit the freight switchyard. The majority of the trains using the railroad at the moment are transit trains which had to be diverted northward because the Trans-Siberian Railroad is overloaded. Collegiality and coordination of operations and also strict supervision and responsibility on the part of everyone from switching dispatchers to the railroad director are today more important than ever. After all, many sectors of the Baykal-Amur Railroad are coping with such heavy loads for the first time.

[E.E. Tomazov, first deputy chief of the railroad's transportation service] Everyone will remember the conjectures about closing down the railroad, diverting traffic to other railroads, and the fears that there would be nothing to transport on this railroad. Now we have a certain volume of traffic. What we need are technical facilities, locomotives, and freight cars. Because of the lack of freight cars we have already had to pay a fine to miners in South Yakutia. The funds allocated for the construction of the Baykal-Amur Railroad have not yet been fully assimilated. Construction of many of our installations has not yet been completed or has only just started. Therefore, potential for increasing the volume of traffic exists, and the railroad will exploit it.

Voronin Speaks on Economic Problems

LD2609175390

[From the "In the USSR Government program"]

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1450 GMT on 26 September carries a 10-minute program "In the USSR Government." L.A. Voronin, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, gives an account of the problems facing the Soviet economy, and relates some of the measures being taken to alleviate them.

Noting that "labor discipline is falling," Voronin points out that "in the first eight months of this year alone, we have lost more than 10 million working days; losses from strikes have come to more than 1 billion rubles."

Voronin, asked what was being done to resolve the country's food shortages both in the long term and immediately, says: "We have adopted measures and have concluded additional agreements with the GDR and the FRG for the additional delivery to the USSR this year of meat, butter, children's food—well, I shall not give a list—and of a number of other products. Measures have been taken and significant additional quantities of rice will be supplied from Vietnam, Thailand, and India. The issue of providing the population with tea has been fully studied and will be resolved. We are now engaged in removing the issue of providing the population with vegetable oil and meat."

Addressing the question of bringing in the current harvest, Voronin says: "I should say that over the past week the rates of harvesting and selling grain have increased somewhat. Collective and state farms have supplied 4 million tonnes of grain to the all-Union reserves over the past week. This is considerably better than in the previous period."

With regard to preparations for the forthcoming winter, Voronin described the situation as "complex." "It is especially complicated by the fact that over the eight months of this year 20 million tonnes less oil has been produced in the country than last year, and 24 million tonnes less coal," he says.

Commentary Analyzes Costs of Gulf Crisis

LD2709213290 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Boris Belitskiy commentary]

[Text] The crisis in the Gulf and the consequent soaring of oil prices has led some analysts in the West to speak of this as a windfall for the Soviet Union, as an oil-exporting country. In "Vantage Point" tonight Boris Belitskiy uses simple arithmetic to explain why this isn't exactly so:

Of course, the crisis in the oil-rich Persian Gulf was bound to have an impact on the Soviet Union, the world's biggest oil producer. Last year it produced 12

million barrels of oil daily. The energy department director at the European Economic Commission, (Mr. Brindell), even claimed this month that the soaring price of oil could double the Soviet Union's revenues from its oil exports and boost them to $30 billion in the next 12 months.

In reality, unfortunately, the picture is far more complex and contradictory. For one thing, Iraq was for many years one of the Soviet Union's major economic partners. Soviet exports to Iraq, like the exports of France and West Germany, consisted mainly of arms and last year alone totalled $3 billion. The Soviet Union accepted part of its payments from Iraq for these and other supplies and services in oil. This year alone, Iraq was to have provided the USSR with over 10 million tonnes of oil under these arrangements. The Gulf crisis interrupted these supplies at just about the midway point. The closing of the tap cost this country $500 million.

The oil from Iraq was moreover reexported by the Soviet Union to other countries, such as Bulgaria and India. The revenue from the sale of that oil is now also lost, another entry in the debit side of our ledger. What's more, our failure to meet those obligations may prompt those countries to reduce their exports of food, medicines, and consumer goods which the USSR badly needs.

Then there are the losses due to the halting of several large-scale Soviet projects in Iraq and the recall of Soviet specialists from that country as a result of the sanctions imposed on Iraq. These losses add up to at least another $2 billion a year.

The occupation of Kuwait likewise entails financial losses for the Soviet Union. Under agreements between the two countries, Kuwait was to have invested in the development of remote oilfields in Siberia and the Soviet Artic and was to have funded other projects in the USSR.

Other losses also are inevitable. The higher prices of oil in the West are certain to be passed on to other industries, including those whose products the Soviet Union imports. Some Soviet experts fear all the gains from higher oil prices will be wiped out by the higher prices this country will have to pay for vital imports.

Then again, the Gulf crisis, if it persists, could affect the Soviet Union's economic relations with other partners in the Arab world, but most important of all is another consideration. The Soviet Union is rapidly moving towards a market economy and towards integration in the global market system. It is therefore vitally interested in its stability and in a fair distribution of revenues and expenditures. It would not be in the long-term interest of this country to base its economic strategy on a favorable short-term situation on the oil market. The overriding economic interests of the Soviet Union are quite different. It wants stable, mutually rewarding relations with other countries and a speedy end to upheavals such as those created by the present conflict in the Persian Gulf.

Agricultural

New Livestock Procurement Prices Authorized

LD2909015790 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1703 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow, 28 Sep (TASS)—The USSR Council of Ministers has ordered the early introduction—as of 1 October this year—of new state procurement prices for cattle, pigs, sheep, and poultry, endorsed by Resolution No. 792 of the USSR Council of Ministers of 9 August this year. The prices include differentiated increases and increases for sales of cattle and poultry to the state above the average level attained in the last five years.

The additional expenditure in the fourth quarter of 1990 to reimburse the price differences caused by the rise in procurement prices for meat and meat products used for internal republican consumption and received through interrepublican deliveries is to be financed from the budgets of the relevant Union republics, while that for meat and meat products supplied to the cities of Moscow and Leningrad, except for deliveries from the RSFSR, and also to special consumers of all-Union stocks, is to be financed from the Union budget. The USSR Council of Ministers has noted that in its Resolution No.343 of 8 September 1990 the RSFSR Council of Ministers stipulated that the necessary resources should be sought to cover additional expenditure in connection with the introduction of new procurement prices for cattle and poultry.

In connection with the adoption of the instruction, the additional agricultural income for the fourth quarter of the current year from the introduction of new prices will amount to more than five billion rubles. At the same time payment by the state for a tonne of cattle, procured from collective farms, state farms, other agricultural enterprises and organisations, lease-holders, and individual farmers will increase by 31 percent, of pigs by 23 percent, sheep 16 percent, and poultry 40 percent.

Resolution on Saving RSFSR Harvest Published

PM3009194590 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Sep 90 Second Edition p 2

[Resolution signed by I. Silayev, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, and A. Sterligov, administrator of affairs of the RSFSR Council of Ministers: "To Save the Harvest. On Emergency Measures To Gather the 1990 Harvest of Potatoes, Vegetables, Fruits, and Other Agricultural Crops in a Number of Oblasts and Autonomous Republics of the Northwest, Volga-Vyatka, Central, and Ural Regions"]

[Text] Extremely unfavorable weather conditions have taken shape in the oblasts and autonomous republics of the Northwest, Volga-Vyatka, Central, and Ural Regions. More than twice the monthly norm of precipitation fell during the first half of September 1990. As a result, a critical situation has been created with regard to

harvesting potatoes, vegetables, fruits, and other agricultural crops, delivering them to the trade network, and laying them in for winter storage—which could lead to a further deterioration in the population's food supplies, particularly in the cities of Moscow and Leningrad and in other industrial centers in the republic.

The RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Council of Ministers resolves:

1. Autonomous republic Councils of Ministers and oblispolkoms [oblast soviet executive committees] in the Northwest, Volga-Vyatka, Central, and Ural Regions and Moscow and Leningrad Gorispolkoms [City Soviet Executive Committees] are to take emergency measures to save the harvest of potatoes, vegetables, fruits, and other agricultural crops, to deliver them to the all-Union and republican (RSFSR) funds, to lay them in for winter storage, and to organize uninterrupted trade in these products.

In addition, the necessary quantities of manpower, transport, and material resources of industrial enterprises, organizations, and establishments are to be enlisted from cities and industrial centers before 20 October 1990, regardless of their departmental subordination.

It is laid down that the decisions of emergency commissions of oblasts, krays, and autonomous republics connected with gathering in the harvest are final and are to be carried out rigorously.

The validity of RSFSR Council of Ministers Order No. 966-R of 11 August 1990 with regard to involving students of VUZ's [higher educational institutions] and pupils of secondary specialized educational institutions and vocational and technical schools in harvest work is to be extended by one month.

Where necessary, it is permitted to involve VUZ students and secondary specialized educational institution pupils in their final years in the harvesting of potatoes and vegetables.

2. The proposal of the USSR Ministry of Defense to send additional military school cadets, military service personnel, motor transport, tow trucks, and loading and other equipment to harvest and transport potatoes and vegetables and to lay them in store, following requests from autonomous republic Councils of Ministers, oblispolkoms, and Moscow and Leningrad Gorispolkoms, is accepted.

3. The RSFSR Ministry of Internal Affairs, jointly with soviet and economic organs, is to draw up a system of measures to monitor the involvement and the efficient utilization of motor transport in harvesting potatoes and fruit and vegetable produce and in laying them in store.

4. Autonomous republic Councils of Ministers, krayispolkoms [kray soviet executive committees], oblispolkoms [oblast soviet executive committee], Moscow and Leningrad Gorispolkoms [city soviet executive committee], the RSFSR Ministry of Agriculture and Food, the RSFSR Ministry of Trade, the Rospotrebsoyuz [Russian Union of Consumer Trade Cooperatives], and other procurement organizations are to be granted the right to buy from kolkhozes [collective farms], sovkhozes [state farms], other agricultural enterprises, and the population, potatoes, vegetables, and fruits with deviations from the established standards, for their supply for food purposes.

5. Leaders of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, agro-industrial combines, and associations are recommended to set aside individual fields and plots for collectives of industrial enterprises and organizations and for private persons for the harvesting of potatoes and vegetables and to sell this produce to them at preferential prices. State statistics organs are to count the produce sold on these terms in the total volume of sales and in the fulfillment of the delivery plan.

6. The RSFSR Ministry of Agriculture and Food, the RSFSR Ministry of Trade, the Rospotrebsoyuz, autonomous republic Councils of Ministers, krayispolkoms, oblispolkoms, and Moscow and Leningrad Gorispolkoms are to provide for the additional laying in store of cabbages, culinary root crops, onions, and garlic over and above the set plans, using for these purposes the existing premises that are suitable for long-term storage.

7. The RSFSR Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the RSFSR State Committee for Material and Technical Support for Republican and Regional Programs are to place the necessary material and technical resources at the disposal of autonomous republic Councils of Ministers, oblispolkoms, and Moscow and Leningrad Gorispolkoms to encourage kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises to fulfill contract pledges with regard to delivering potatoes and vegetables to the all-Union and republican (RSFSR) funds.

8. In order to enhance the material interest of the oblasts and autonomous republics supplying potatoes to the cities of Moscow and Leningrad, Moscow and Leningrad Gorispolkoms are to find an opportunity to allocate goods in short supply to them for sale to the population in return.

9. It is noted that the USSR Ministry of Railways has given instructions to railroad chiefs to deliver potatoes and fruit and vegetable produce to the cities of Moscow and Leningrad as a priority in accordance with the schedule of fast trains.

10. The RSFSR Ministry of Agriculture and Food (Comrade Naumov) and the Rospotrebsoyuz [Republican Union of Consumer Societies] (Comrade Roshchin) are to report constantly to the RSFSR Council of Ministers on the progress in harvesting and procuring potatoes and fruit and vegetable produce.

11. This resolution is to be published in the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA and in other mass media.

Uzbekistan Cotton Harvest Breaks Records

LD3009174790 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Harvesting on the cotton plantations of Uzbekistan are being carried out with unprecedented rapidity. In only one day, more than 200,000 tonnes of raw cotton have been laid in and in all, since the start of the season, more than 2.5 million tonnes of cotton have been gathered. The republic's State Committee for Statistics has announced that this is the first time that such an amount of raw cotton has been laid in in Uzbekistan by the end of September in the entire history of the country's cotton-growing.

Silayev Inspects Moscow Oblast Potato Harvest

LD0110091990 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 30 Sep 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A state of emergency has been declared in the rayons of the Moscow region, Moscow's main suppliers of potatoes and vegetables.

[Unidentified correspondent] On Sunday, the prime minister of Russia, Silayev, visited where there are no lines for potatoes: There are still plenty in the fields of Dmirovskiy and certain other rayons in Moscow Oblast. Robust cabbage and excellent carrots have been grown, yet there are none in the shops because we have become more bogged down in arguments and complaints than we have in the burgeoning fields. Who should take in the harvest? The countryfolk are awaiting their sponsors, as they have long been accustomed, and the townsfolk, also as they have become accustomed, are waiting at the shop counter. Who will resolve the problem?

[Silayev] The private farmers, of course. The leaseholders, of course. If these plots of land had been, say, under private farmers,—well, I do not know how many there are, 10, 20, 30 hectares—there would not be any problems today.

[Correspondent] They are all complaining, our new private farmers, that the state farms are allocating them the worse land, and so on—all sorts of oppression.

[Silayev] We are currently elaborating a draft law on land reform, but at the moment there is a battle going on. One side thinks that there should not under any circumstances be a single plot of land under private property. Look, with collective property we and you are sitting in this mud unharvested potatoes and carrots. [end recording]

[Correspondent] But an economy, a normal one, common to all mankind, will not begin functioning today, but we want to eat now. The Muscovites have only one way out, the leaders of the republic and Moscow oblast have decided: Together to take on themselves part of the job which is beyond the capacity of the farmers. Townsfolk will lay in potatoes and vegetables for their own homes on the most advantageous terms. Students and tens of thousands of soldiers will help. This question will be examined tomorrow as the one of paramount importance at the Russian Council of Ministers.

Agricultural Developments for 25-26 Sep Reported

LD2709010590

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 25-26 September, unless indicated otherwise. Times of broadcast, given in GMT, are in parentheses at the end of each item.

25 September

Grain is being cleared at fast rates by Kazakhstan's machine operators. The weather is warm and sunny and combine drivers are daily reaping and threshing cereals on more than one million hectares. Our correspondent was told at the Ministry of Bread Grain Products of the republic that eight million tonnes of grain had already reached the elevators, mainly wheat of strong and hard strains. This year Kazakhstan's farms reckon to sell the state 16 million tonnes of grain. (0330)

To date, 20 million hectares of grain have been threshed in Kazakhstan. This is 90 percent of the entire grain-growing area of the republic. The yield at present is 13.5 quintals per hectare. (1300)

26 September

No significant developments reported.

Scientific

'Meteor-2' Satelite Launched 28 Sep

LD2909113190 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0753 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow, 29 Sep (TASS)—"Meteor-2," the latest meteorological earth satellite, was launched in the Soviet Union by a "Tsiklon" carrier rocket on 28 September 1990.

The satelite has been placed in an orbit with these parameters:

—initial period of revolution, 104.2 minutes;

—maximum distance from the earth's surface (apogee), 975 km;

—minimum distance from the earth surface (perigee), 953 km;

—orbital inclination, 82.5 degrees.

Sets of apparatus for obtaining global representations of cloud cover and the surface underneath in the visible and

infra-red ranges of the spectrum, both by memorizing and by direct transmission, and of radiometric apparatus for continuous observations of flows of penetrating radiation in near-earth space are installed on board the satellite.

Besides scientific equipment the satellite has: A system that ensures the satellite is positioned toward the earth; a system for electrical supply that has independent orientation of solar batteries toward the sun; a radiotelemetry system for relaying data on the work of the satellite's auxilliary systems to earth; a radiosystem for precise measurement of the orbit's parameters; a radiocomplex for relaying scientific information to earth.

The installed equipment on the satellite is functioning normally. A command-measuring complex is controlling the functions of the satellite. The information from the satellite is being relayed to the State Research Center on the Study of Natural Resources, and to the Hydrometeorological Center of the USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology, for processing and utilization.

Progress Module Docks With 'Mir' Station

LD2909141290 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1330 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow, 29 Sep (TASS)—Today at 1627 Moscow time [1227 GMT], the automatic cargo ship Progress M-5 docked with the piloted station Mir.

The mutual location, approach, mooring, and docking took place with the aid of the on-board automated equipment. These processes were controlled by Flight Control Center, and also by the cosmonauts, Manakov and Strekalov.

The ship Progress M-5 docked with the station from the side of its transfer module. The orbital deliveries were fuel for the combined propulsion unit, food, water, equipment, instruments, and mail.

According to the telemetric information and the crew's reports, the on-board systems of the piloted station Mir are working normally. Gennadiy Manakov and Gennadiy Strekalov feel fine.

TV Reports 'Progress-M5' Launch, Tasks

LD2709213990

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1700 GMT on 27 September carries in its "Vremya" newscast a 2-minute video report on the launch of the Progress-M5 cargo spacecraft.

Correspondent Orlov says that the spacecraft, which was launched at 1437 today, can deliver cargoes to the space station and bring items back, such as crystals grown in space. Gennadiy Melakov and Gennadiy Stekalov have now packed them aboard the station. Progress-M5's capsule can bring up to 150 kg of cargo back to earth from Mir. The unmanned "factory satellite" Faton successfully returned to earth after producing crystals for two weeks for a Munich firm, Kaiser Trade. Such commercial deals bring in foreign currency.

Orlov notes that the USSR has been late in taking its share of the space cake, and the French were first with commercial launches, but they have enlisted Soviet help in testing their Hermes shuttle. Interest in Soviet engines is growing, and it is planned to use one of them to launch Britain's Hotol. Results of this deal will be known in six months. Materials obtained from the orbital station will be much in demand abroad. Docking with Mir is set for this saturday, Orlov concludes.

Video shows the launch, Flight Control center, Mr crew on TV screen there, capsule marked "Scientific Production Association ENERGIYA," and Moscow space exhibition.

Environmental Issues Featured on Newscast

PM3009171590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0830 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Report by V. Batalov and V. Zhuravlev, followed by report by Yu. Filippov and Ye. Abramov; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpt] [Reporter] Important and unexpected results have been obtained by the participants in an expedition researching the ecological situation in the Gulf of Finland aboard the scientific ship Akademik Krylov. They returned to Leningrad with a large amount of data which, regrettably, is no cause for celebration. It told of catastrophic pollution of the seabed with heavy metals, pesticides, and herbicides. Diving in a minisubmarine, the scientists recorded this violation of the seabed for the first time. These are the results of our economic activity and mismanagement. Certain parts of the Gulf of Finland felt Chernobyl's radioactive breath. This was the conclusion reached by the scientists from the Krylov Central Scientific Research Institute and the All-Union Geological Institute, which were behind the exhibition.

[M.S. Spiridonov, scientific leader of the expedition] By eating contaminated food and other biological material, we subject certain organs in our bodies—the stomach, the intestines, the liver, and so on—to the effects of radiation. This is a very unpleasant situation. It produces a whole number of known and very serious diseases. But the point is that it is possible to exclude certain areas from the food chain—by banning fishing in certain parts of the Gulf of Finland, for instance. We already have proposals of this sort for specific areas. One such area is Luga Bay—part of the Gulf of Finland.

[Reporter] As of next year, scientists from Leningrad and Finland will carry out maritime geo-ecological patrols. These will help to heal the criminal sores that formed in the Gulf of Finland following the Chernobyl disaster.

[Announcer] I think that this information will be taken into account by the participants in the "Nuclear Power at Sea. Safety and Ecology" seminar currently being held in Murmansk.

[Reporter] The organizers of the seminar—the USSR Nuclear Society—are staging it on board ships of the Murmansk Steamship Company, with which all our country's civil nuclear-powered vessels are registered. Hitherto, Soviet nuclear scientists have been working in an environment of restricted information. The policy of openness and glasnost which came to the country with perestroyka has made this information accessible to all. The forum is being attended by opponents of nuclear power at sea, as well as by its supporters. [passage omitted]

Military

Baltic Shipyard Builds Last Kirov Cruiser

LD3009220490 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Our Leningrad correspondent reports that yet another witness to the heroic defense of Leningrad has today appeared on the banks of the Neva. It is a monument on the river bank in honor of the red star cruiser Kirov. This craft, which was built at the end of the 1930's at the Baltiyskiy Zavod yards, was an active participant in the Patriotic War. At the beginning of the war, it defended Riga and Tallinn, and then throughout the blockade it was part of the hero-city's fire shield.

Now at Baltiyskiy Zavod, the nuclear-powered cruiser, Yuriy Andropov, the last of the series of Kirov class cruisers, has been built. In future Baltiyskiy Zavod is completely going over to the construction of merchant vessels.

Deputy Defense Minister on Arms Issues, Funding

PM2809145090 Moscow IAN PRESS RELEASE in English 23 Aug 90

["On the Principles of the Defensive Military Doctrine. General of the Army Vitaliy Shabanov, Defence Minister's Deputy for Armaments, in an Interview with Novosti's Yuriy Lebedev"]

[Text] Question: The Defence Minister stressed in his speeches that the task is to improve the quality of the Soviet Armed Forces, now that they are being reduced. Won't this lead to an arms race in qualitatively new weapons?

Answer: He means the sophistication of defensive weapons, a process that is the practical implementation of our defensive military doctrine and hence cannot lead to an arms race in the qualitative sphere.

The history of weapons shows that the main material cause of the arms race is the scientific, technical and technological breakthroughs in the creation of strike offensive armaments. One example. The creation of the A-bomb by U.S. scientists in the mid-1940s (its yield equivalent to the explosion of 20,000 tonnes of TNT), was the main cause of the arms race in the post-war period.

It took much courage from state, political and military leaders of the great powers to start practical disarmament in the latter half of the 1980s.

The new political thinking, initiated by this country, largely promoted an end of the cold war and the reduction of armaments, above all nuclear ones.

However, the Los Alamos, Livermore and other U.S. laboratories continue research into the sophistication of armaments, which is indirectly proved by the increase in the allocations on nuclear weapons and technology and continued underground nuclear tests in Nevada.

According to the Soviet Institute of U.S. and Canadian Studies, in 1986-90 the U.S. spending on nuclear weapons (in stable 1982 prices) increased by 37.5 percent compared to 1981-85. The draft U.S. military budget for 1991 provides for increasing expenditures on nuclear weapons by 12.5 percent on 1990. Here you are.

There is no information about a qualitative breakthrough in the creation of third-generation nuclear weapons in the U.S., but research has been going on vigorously and is accompanied by nuclear testing.

We follow the progress of this research, but the discontinuation of nuclear testing at the Semipalatinsk range will limit our possibilities for testing the data we have about U.S. research.

So, the main threat is the possible scientific breakthroughs leading to the creation of third-generation nuclear weapons. We must create an international mechanism to preclude this.

Question: Can conversion negatively effect the quality of our armaments?

Answer: Conversion is proceeding according to plan and takes into account military research and production programmes. We have elaborated and moved for the consideration of the government a Draft State Programme of Conversion, which provides for a package of organisational, technical, economic and social measures. The aim is to change the specialisation of a part of the scientific and technological capacities of the armaments industry for the fulfilment of civilian orders.

By 1995 we expect to convert 422 defence plants. Fifty-six of them will be made purely civilian in the next three years, while others will radically reduce the production of armaments and military hardware.

The conversion plan provides for retaining the highly-qualified personnel of the defence plants, their unique

equipment and testing ranges—now engaged in the production of civilian goods—and for further developing the research and production capacities of these enterprises.

We shall transfer the technological achievements of the armaments industry to civilian production.

The remaining part of defence plants will continue producing armaments and military hardware, but in smaller batches. They will comply with the technical and other standards put by the Defense Ministry to the creation and production of armaments.

This means that conversion should not affect quality.

Question: Do you think the funding of military research and production should be concentrated in the Defence Ministry?

Answer: Absolutely. This would enable us to more rationally use money allocated on defence. It should be said that allocations on the purchase of mass-produced armaments and military hardware have always been the domain of the Defence Ministry. It concludes deals with enterprises on the production of military hardware.

But there is a different scheme of funding research and development. Since this sphere of activity has been a taboo for a long time, many people (including some people's deputies) think that allocations on research and development are made directly from the state budget, are not linked to particular projects and hence can be used by the designers as they see fit. The latter are also believed to independently determine the tactical and technical characteristics of new weapons, while the Defence Ministry allegedly has to take whatever it is offered.

Actually, projects for the creation of all kinds of weapons and military hardware are coordinated by military institutes together with designers and are carefully analysed at different military-technical and technological councils.

This helps us draft 10-year programmes which provide not only for the terms and the cost of research but also for the main tactical-technological characteristics of new weapons. These programmes are used to draft five-year plans of research development, which research institutes and design bureaus must comply with. These plans include not only the general cost of research but also allocations for each year.

The plans of the most important research projects for the creation of armaments and military hardware are to be approved by the government, while other projects are to be approved by the state military-industrial commission.

Actually research and development projects for the creation of new weapons are state contracts. Only a small part of such work was done under direct contracts with the Defence Ministry. This system has both positive and negative elements.

It is positive that contracts for the creation of new weapons are concluded with the government. It is negative that the Defence Ministry does not have economic leverage to influence the progress of research and development.

That is why many projects lagged behind schedule and their cost exceeded the planned allocations. Some projects were done on a low technical level.

Now that allocations on military research and development are being reduced, this system will not guarantee their rational use. That is why the Defence Ministry wants to control all allocations on research and development projects, while the Defence Ministry will have a right to conclude agreements with research institutes and design bureaus to control the progress of these projects. Suggestions to this effect were sent for government approval, and I think they will be realised in 1991.

Official Describes Improved Benefits for Soldiers

PM2609100590 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 5

[Report by N. Burbyga: "Even Defenders of the Motherland Need Protection"]

[Text] A news conference organized by the USSR Defense Ministry was held 21 September at the Soviet Army Central House. It was devoted to questions of the social protection of servicemen and their families. Our correspondent's questions were answered by Colonel V. Korolenko, deputy chief of the USSR Defense Ministry Central Finance Administration.

[Burbyga] Vladimir Ivanovich, we currently have more than 170,000 service families without accommodation. But the Army is not just experiencing difficulties with housing. Garrisons are poorly off as regards preschool institutions, schools, and social, cultural, and everyday facilities. What is the reason for this dreadful situation?

[Korolenko] The reason is the same as in the country as a whole. The social sphere in the Army has been financed on the leftover principle. The lack of funds spent on it has been a stumbling block for us. Moreover, it is no secret that the shortsighted policy regarding orders of hardware and armaments led to more tanks and other arms being produced than were needed for defense sufficiency.

[Burbyga] As is well known, the Defense Ministry has been implementing measures for the social protection of servicemen as of 1 January 1990.

[Korolenko] This required 1.3 billion rubles [R]. But the Defense Ministry has not received the money from the country's budget. We have had to find the money ourselves—and this at a time when military expenditure is being cut by R6.3 billion.

Field pay rates have been increased from R1.5 to R3.5 a day, and the pay scales of officers and warrant officers

have been raised. The one-shot benefit paid upon discharge to the reserve has been increased to cover five pay scales. The size of benefit payable when draftees are discharged has been increased from R10 to R100. The material position of those servicemen without apartments has been improved—through the letting of temporary accommodation for R30-90. These measures have somewhat eased the tension but have not fundamentally solved the questions connected with social protection for servicemen and their material position. For instance, a platoon commander in the Russian heartland will be paid R370. He may have two children. His wife may not work. Moreover, he has to pay R100 for his apartment. And then there are food prices.... So in the end the officer is forced to live on the breadline. What country would stand for that?

[Burbyga] About prices, incidentally. You are talking about the situation in the past. But prices are rising, particularly in certain Union republics. In Estonia, for instance, butter already costs R10, milk 50 kopeks, and meat R7-10. What is the Defense Ministry's reaction to this?

[Korolenko] Unfortunately, we cannot react quickly to price rises. And this is why. Working through Union government organs takes a considerable amount of time. For instance, in the republics compensation is being paid to citizens, but it does not extend to servicemen. Recently Russia, the Ukraine, and Belorussia made the decision to increase pay on territories polluted as a result of the Chernobyl AES [nuclear electric power station] disaster by 20-100 percent. But the Defense Ministry is only allocated money after an all-Union decision is made. So far there has been no such decision. Wouldn't it be better to give us the right to apply the Union republics' decision without issuing a Union resolution in each case?

[Burbyga] On 15 September the government ratified a targeted social welfare program for servicemen and their family members. What does it envisage?

[Korolenko] It specifically envisages increasing the size of the pay scale supplement to cover the real cost of food, to improve food provision to draftees, to issue additional amounts of meat, fish, vegetables, and eggs, and to include milk, vegetables, and fruit juices in soldiers' rations.

Certain provisions of the program are still being worked out. It is planned to establish pay scales ranging from R20 to R50 for draftees, and to increase them by R80-150 for officers and warrant officers. It is envisaged that new supplementary payments will be introduced for those working with personnel and equipment. These measures are not final. Under market conditions coefficients related to the rise in prices and the indexation of income will be set for servicemen—as they will for other citizens, incidentally. We cannot do without this, as you will understand.

News Conference on Servicemen's Social Protection

90SV0097A Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Sep 90 First Edition p 1

[Article by Major I. Ivanyuk: "Rights, Guarantees, Protection"]

[Text] On 1 September, a news conference took place in the Central Hall of the Soviet Army imeni M.V. Frunze, organized by the press center of the USSR Ministry of Defense. The news conference was devoted to questions of social and legal protection for servicemen and their families.

In his introductory address, Major General N. Grebenkin, deputy director of the Ideology Directorate of the Main Political Administration of the Soviet Army and Navy, noted that the problem of strengthening legal and social guarantees for those who have bound their lives with the Armed Forces has become quite severe in recent times.

This concern was also reflected in the questions journalists posed at the conference to Colonel General V. Babyev, director of the Central Finance Administration of the USSR Ministry of Defense; Colonel General N. Gryaznov, director of the Main Administration for Housing Utilization of the USSR Ministry of Defense; and other responsible officials.

It was reported that a draft program for social protection for military servicemen and members of their families was examined and approved by the USSR government, and in the near future would be submitted to the USSR Supreme Soviet for consideration.

Among the urgent measures charted for next year are increases in financial support for servicemen completing basic term of service by a factor of four to five, and the introduction of supplemental payments for the rank and file for special conditions of service. It is envisaged that financial support for the officer corps will be provided directly depending on the quality, intensity, and effectiveness of their military labor. It is intended to augment the "bracket" of pay scales and supplements for those who are on operational duty by 20-50 rubles per month, and for officers on ship at sea by 45-90 rubles per month. It is planned to introduce supplemental payment for special conditions of service of engineering and technical personnel of aviation units. Compensation to bachelor officers is envisaged to sublease housing when they are not afforded communal billets. It is also proposed that 50 rubles be paid instead of a food ration.

A great many questions concerned resolution of the housing issue in the Army and Navy—especially in view of the pull-out of units from the Western Group of Forces. In accordance with an intergovernmental agreement, 7.8 billion marks has been specially allocated to the Ministry of Defense for construction of living space. The construction will be carried out in a number of

military districts. Construction firms of the FRG, Austria, Turkey, and Yugoslavia will presumably be involved in this work.

Ground Forces Workers Form Trade Union

PM2509134990 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Sep 90 First Edition p 1

[Report by "Our correspondent": "Constituent Congress"]

[Text] The Constituent Congress of the Ground Forces Workers and Employees Union has been held in the M.V. Frunze Central House of the Soviet Army. The need to unite Ground Forces trade union organizations so that they can focus their efforts on protecting working people's interests was stressed both in the report and in the speeches of delegates to the congress.

Lieutenant General Yu. Dortsev, first deputy chief of the Ground Forces Political Directorate, delivered a report on socioeconomic problems and the activity of labor collectives in conditions of the reform of the USSR Armed Forces.

The congress discussed and adopted the statutes of the Ground Forces Workers and Employees Union and also examined questions connected with the creation of a Federation of USSR Armed Forces Workers and Employees Unions. V. Koshelev was elected chairman of the Ground Forces Workers and Employees Union Central Committee.

Defense Industry Produces New Submarine

LD2409160190 Moscow TASS in English 1518 GMT 24 Sep 90

[Text] Arkhangelsk September 24 TASS—The first Soviet Promenade submarine was launched at the shipyards of the defence industry in Severodvinsk, Russia's north, TASS reports.

The submarine can take on board 40 passengers. Twenty-two large loopholes in the salon open on the panorama of underwater world.

The tourist submarine is serviced by a crew of four: two navigators-aquanauts, a steward and a mechanic.

Because of its modest size the submarine can travel only in coastal waters. It can also travel from board ocean-going liners in long cruises. The submarine can be custom-mode in various modifications. It can be equipped with manipulators with the use of which the travellers can pick up the souvenirs, pieces of corals and shells.

Firms of various countries have already shown interest in the new boat. Businessmen from Great Britain, the Netherlands and Italy have already arrived for the presentation of submarine to be held in the White Sea in the days ahead.... Until now such craft were built only by Japanese and Finnish firms.

The boat named "Ichthyander" is the result of the conversion of the Soviet defense industry. In creating the boat ship-builders of Severodvinsk relied on the unique experience and advanced technology used for the construction of atomic submarines.

Kurkotkin Funeral, Burial Reported

PM2509143790 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Sep 90 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Last Journey"]

[Text] On 20 September, servicemen from the USSR Armed Forces and Moscow working people accompanied Hero of the Soviet Union and Marshal of the Soviet Union Semen Konstantinovich Kurotkin, eminent Soviet military leader and active participant in the Great Patriotic War, on his last journey.

The Red Banner Hall in the M.V. Frunze Soviet Army Central House, where the coffin lay, was decked in black. There were many wreaths around the bier.

Marshal of the Soviet Union D.T. Yazov, member of the Presidential Council and USSR defense minister, and USSR deputy defense ministers and military leaders were in the guard of honor.

There was a funeral meeting at the Novodevichye cemetery, where S.K. Kurkotkin was buried.

Baltic Republics

Coverage of Baltic Leaders Economic Conference

Sobchak Joins Proceedings

LD2809102290 Tallinn Domestic Service in Estonian 0900 GMT 28 Sep 90

]Report by Juhan Hindov from the Sakala Center in Tallinn—live]

[Text] The conference of government leaders and representatives continues in Tallinn today. At 0930, members of 10 delegations took their seats around an oval table at the Sakala Center. Early in the morning the conference gained an addition in the form of a representative of Leningrad City Council in the person of Anatoliy Sobchak. Immediately before the start of the conference, Lithuanian Prime Minister Kazimiera Prunskiene arrived on a special plane with her delegation. Last night Latvian Prime Minister Ivars Godmanis arrived in Tallinn and is a guest of our town. By the way, the Latvian delegation was already present yesterday and presented an interesting view of problems of the Baltic market.

So this morning the conference resumed once again. For the purpose of presenting their positions, the delegations from Latvia, Lithuania, and Leningrad—which had joined the others—were given the floor. Academician Mikhail Bronshteyn then spoke to the conference participants. He dealt with the economic situation in the Soviet Union and presented his view of the economic renewal proposed by Moscow. He examined at length the plan for stabilizing the economy put forward by the USSR president and his proposals for changing over to a market system. However, in a document of the conference outlining its positions, the government of the Republic of Estonia has expressed concern over these proposals. This economic view clearly contains shades of the past.

At present the conference is still going on at the Sakala Center. The delegations will coordinate their positions and after lunch—that is, at 1500—conference documents will be signed. After that, representatives of the delegations will give a press conference in the cinema hall of the Sakala Center at 1630. This is Juhan Hindov at the Sakala Center.

Prunskiene Addresses Meeting

LD2809222390 Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian 1900 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Estonian republic government chairman Edgar Savisaar and other government members met with the Lithuanian delegation at Tallinn Airport. [passage omitted]

In her speech at the conference, Kazimiera Prunskiene [words indistinct] about the formation of a new Soviet market, emphasized that establishment of new regional markets and cooperation agreements among them under current [passage indistinct] economic conditions is a significant and important step in economic stabilization. In this sense, the Baltic market is also a very important [word indistinct]. [passage omitted]

Discussions here held during the conference on how to maintain economic ties at the 1990 level and how to further improve them. This will provide guarantees against worsening of our economic situation and will furnish opportunities for our supplying ourselves with necessary resources. [passage omitted]

Leaders of the conference participant delegations held a news conference. The Lithuanian republic's state delegation returned to Vilnius the same day.

Estonia Aspires to 'Common Market'

LD2809162290 Helsinki Domestic Service in Finnish 1500 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Excerpt] In Tallinn, representatives of the government of nine Soviet republics today signed a declaration in which they state their intention to form a common market for the present territory of the Soviet Union. In this plan there would be no part for the central government of the Soviet Union to play in economic matters. From Tallinn, Hannu Vilpponen reports:

[Begin recording] [Vilpponen] The common market of the Soviet republics does not mean the same as, say, the common market of Europe. In the West, companies (?independent of the state) have the same rights to operate in all member states. The declaration signed here today aims for a common market between independent republics, not between enterprises. The plan is mainly that the republics would themselves decide on the use of their own wealth and the payment for their work. Since the movement of money in the Soviet Union at the moment is very concentrated, and Estonia for example is under the special supervision of the central bank, the new plans for the time being can only be carried out in more or less the form of goods exchange between republics, or trade as is already being conducted.

In a situation like this, though, it is still a long way to a common market. Economy Minister Jaak Leimann, are you aiming here within the Soviet Union for the same kind of structure as the already existing European Community?

[Leimann] Certainly we will have to learn from the European Community, and here there was a presentation from a representative from Europe—from Brussels—and all the time we have been following and studying the history of European cooperation and so on. But we are at a different level, and there are quite different problems to those Europe now has, and also there are decades [words indistinct], but we are indeed founding a new organization. In other words, we are deciding today that the Soviet republics and the already independent states, as we Baltic countries are, still want

to organize meetings. Perhaps next time there will be talk of this system a bit more deeply. There will perhaps be a secretariat and so on.

[Vilpponen] Officials like that, and yet this is for cooperation between republics and not enterprises?

[Leimann] Yes, basically between republics. And of course that is why there will also be a guarantee of cooperation between enterprises. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Lithuania-USSR To Hold Discussions in Moscow

Talks Set for 2 Oct

LD2909173590 Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian 1700 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Lithuanian and Soviet representatives will take their places at the Moscow negotiating table on Tuesday [2 October] at 1000.

This was confirmed today by USSR Premier Nikolay Ryzhkov in a telephone call to Lithuanian Prime Minister Kazimiera Prunskiene.

Certain questions related to the start of negotiations were defined. A possibility has been set forth for the accreditation of representatives from the Lithuanian mass information media assigned to cover this event.

Ryzhkov To Lead Negotiations

LD2909224490 Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] As is known, Ryzhkov will head the Soviet delegation in negotiations with Lithuania. However it appears that, at least at the outset, President Gorbachev himself could take the initiative into his own hands. [passage omitted]

It is thought that the draft protocol will be decided upon at the first meeting, and consultations will also take place to determine the location, time, frequency of meetings, and similar matters.

The Lithuanian delegation, which is comprised of eight members, will leave for Moscow on Monday.

It is hoped that Lithuanian television will provide a report from the Kremlin on Tuesday evening. [passage omitted]

Prunskiene Sees Progress In Talks

LD2809124490 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1220 GMT 28 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Serafim Bykhun]

[Text] Vilnius, 28 Sep (TASS)—Speaking on republican television, Lithuanian Premier Kazimiera Prunskiene said that there has been certain advances along the road toward talks between the USSR and Lithuania: the Lithuanian delegation has finally started to act more decisively in that direction.

Referring to the readiness of the Lithuanian delegation for the talks, the head of government stressed that an overall scenario has already been drawn up and organizational matters had been discussed.

Prunskiene thinks that it would be very imprudent to make unilateral statements and to say that Lithuania is avoiding economic relations with the Soviet Union for political reasons. She also announced that the head of the Soviet delegation at the talks with Lithuania—Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers—has proposed that both sides should meet on 2 October in Moscow.

'Complete Secession' a Priority

LD2909204390 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1814 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Moscow, September 29 (TANJUG)—During forthcoming negotiations with the Kremlin, the Lithuanian delegation will insist on Lithuania's "complete secession from the Soviet Union, as well as independence and implementation of its own laws," Lithuanian Prime Minister Kazimiera Prunskiene said in an interview to the Vilnius paper TRIMATAS on Saturday.

Prunskiene pointed out a need for Lithuania's establishing border control and settling the question of Soviet troops' presence on its territory.

Lithuania will open talks with Moscow on October 2.

The statement comes at a time when the Baltic republics are stepping up their links with other Soviet republics, by-passing in a way the central one.

Representatives of nine Soviet republics have just ended a meeting in Estonia's capital Tallinn. They reached agreement on maintaining inter-government contacts and creating an inter- republican market.

Talks of 'Consultative Nature'

LD0110084390 Hamburg DPA in German 0744 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Moscow (DPA)—According to Lithuanian Premier Kazimiera [Prunskiene] Tarwidene, the talks beginnng tomorrow in Moscow between the Baltic Republic of Lithuania and the Soviet Government will for the time being be only of a consultative nature. The premier told DPA today that in two telephone conversations with her Soviet Premier Nikolay Ryzhkov also referred to this on behalf of State President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Ms. Tarwidene said that Ryzhkov was of the opinion that for the time being neither of the two sides should make demands. On the subject of the most recent Moscow considerations, namely that Lithuania should

remain in the Soviet Union in one way or the other, the government has said: "Our answer is unanimous: No."

Lithuanian Deputy Premier Romualdas Ozolas spoke with skepticism about the negotiations. In a television speech he stated that if the USSR were to treat Lithuania as a Union republic then this could lead to the breaking off of the dialogue. He referred to the fact that Gorbachev's position vis-a-vis the Baltic republic has recently toughened.

The Lithuanian delegation, which will be led by President Vytautas Landsbergis, will stay in the Lithuanian representation in Moscow for the duration of the talks. The building is to be guarded for the first time by Lithuanian police officers in their new uniforms.

Baltic Representatives Consult

LD2809232390 Vilnius International Service in English 2130 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Representatives of the three Baltic republic's delegations to conduct talks with the Soviet Union met in the Latvian capital Riga today. This meeting is directly connected with the consultations between Lithuania and the Soviet Union due to start in Moscow on Tuesday. The representatives of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia discussed the situation in connection with the political treaties to be signed with Russia and the Soviet Union.

As is known, consultations between Estonia and the Soviet Union broke off recently. Meanwhile, President Gorbachev is actively urging Latvia to sign a new Union treaty. Analysts think that joint actions of the three republics on the eve of the talks can be crucial.

Baltic States Invited To Study Union Treaty

LD2809164290 Moscow TASS in English 1606 GMT 28 Sep 90

[By TASS parliamentary correspondent Boris Zverev]

[Text] Moscow September 28 TASS—Rafik Nishanov, chairman of the Council of Nationalities of the Soviet parliament, expressed the conviction in the rightness of the course at perestroyka of the Soviet Union's national and state structure. He spoke in the academy of Social Sciences at the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, addressing heads of commissions of the Supreme Soviet of Union and autonomous republics, of territorial and regional soviets of people's deputies on the questions of labour, prices and social policy. They completed a fortnight's studies at the academy.

Dwelling on questions connected with a special stand of three Baltic republics—Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia—as regards the drafting of a new Union treaty, Nishanov said: "We do not close the door to personal consultations and to collective consultations."

"Leaving the door open to the participation in the Union treaty, we invite all the Baltic republics to consider these questions and to think of the forms of participation in the Union treaty."

"One can say that the matter does not end at that," Nishanov said. He said that the three republics will possibly be considering their attitudes.

He did not rule out the possibility that the Baltic republics could propose some version of a treaty which "the federation could consider." Explaining this attitude in a brief interview with TASS, Nishanov said that since the contents of the treaty will have many versions, the Baltic republics could consider several versions which would suit them in a sense of a political and economic union. The chairman of the Council of Nationalities stressed that there is a need for initiatives of these republics.

Questions of socio-economic development of society in conditions of the transition to a market were in the focus of the attention of deputies who completed the cycle of studies at the Academy of Social Sciences.

The deputies were also addressed today by chairman of the USSR State Committee for Labour and Social Affairs Vladimir Shcherbakov. He set out the attitude of his agency to economic transformations.

In an interview with TASS he explained a negative attitude of a considerable part of society to the government programme of the transition to market by saying that it was not explained enough.

"We were late in starting this explanatory work and we believe we conducted it ineffectively," Shcherbakov said. He believes "there is a group of people who refuse to consider any governmental proposal for the sole reason they originate with the government."

Baltic Delegates Warn U.S. Senate on Borders

LD3009015290 Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] As we previously reported, representatives of Lithuanian, Latvian, and Estonian delegations for negotiations with the Soviet Union conferred in Riga yesterday. It is thought that joint actions by the Baltic states were coordinated on the eve of negotiations with the Soviet Union.

A letter has been sent to the U.S. Senate by the conference participants in which they issue a warning that the German unification agreement, signed in Moscow on 12 September, may be used as a means to solidify the western Soviet border.

As reported by the Voice of America, it is stated in the document that the question of postwar European borders cannot be deliberated without participation by the Baltic states.

The Senate is urged to change its stance regarding this agreement and its relation to America's resolve not to recognize the incorporation of the Baltic states into the Soviet Union.

Firing of Military Officers in Baltics Explained

PM3009191590 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Sep 90 First Edition p 2

[Interview with Colonel General V. Yermakov, USSR deputy defense minister for cadres and chief of the USSR Defense Ministry Cadres Main Directorate, by correspondent Lieutenant Colonel I. Sas; place and date not given; under the rubric "From Competent Sources": "The 'Punishing Hand of Moscow' Again?"; interview is prefaced by two readers' letters and introduction]

[Text] "Esteemed editorial office!

"The newspaper VECHERNIY TALLINN published an article entitled 'Lithuanian Officers Stripped of Ranks and Pensions' on 16 August this year, quoting the BALTIYA News Agency. The article reported that some 250 reserve officers have been stripped of their military ranks and pensions. It also said that 'former servicemen's surrender of their party membership cards or membership of the Independent Communist Party sometimes' prompted this action. Surely this cannot be true?"

[Signed] V. Osipov, Tallinn.

"I read in the newspaper GUDOK (No. 194, 22 August 1990) that a number of retired and reserve officers in Lithuania have been stripped of their military ranks and pensions on orders from USSR Defense Minister Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Yazov. It alleges that their decision to leave the party prompted this action. Is this information true? Or is it just another attempt to exacerbate relations betwen the party and the Army?"

[Signed] Retired Lieutenant Colonel P. Krivobokov, Sverdlovsk

Our correspondent Lieutenant Colonel I. Sas asked Colonel General V. Yermakov, USSR deputy defense minister for cadres and chief of the USSR Defense Ministry Cadres Main Directorate, to clarify the situation.

[Yermakov] The publications mentioned above are nothing more than another attempt to cast aspersions on the USSR Armed Forces leadership and undermine faith in it by presenting facts in a tendentious way. In reality, everything is quite different.

There certainly have been some cases where retired and reserve officers have been stripped of their military ranks and pensions. But let us take a look at what is really happening here. We will take some specific examples. There is the case of Reserve Colonel Algirdas Kayris, former deputy chairman of the Lithuanian Voluntary Society for the Promotion of the Army, Air Force, and Navy Central Committee. As a member of Sajudis and conducting its policy, he began to direct all his activity against the USSR Armed Forces. He played an active role in reviving the bourgeois Lithuanian paramilitary organization "Union of Lithuanian Riflemen." In other words, he essentially embarked on a path of unconstitutional activity. Is it really possible that someone presenting the Soviet Army as "an army of occupation," doing his level best to cause it harm, and urging young Lithuanians to refuse to serve in its ranks could remain an officer of the Soviet Army? I think the answer is obvious.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA readers must know that people like Kayris are few and far between among those who have been through the cadre school of active military service in the Armed Forces. To be totally precise, three people have been stripped of their military ranks and pensions in Lithuania in 1990. There have been no such cases in Latvia or Estonia.

The rest are so-called "refuseniks." They are mainly young people who have received military training and the title of reserve officer in a civilian higher education establishment; they have not done army service as a rule. Let us take a case at random. Reserve Lieutenant Raymundas Vayshnora, for example. He is 28 years old. He graduated from Kaunas Polytechnical Institute and is an engineer by profession. His notions about the Army extend no further than his higher school military training program. But he sent his military service card to the USSR Defense Ministry saying that he does not wish to be a reserve officer in the "occupation troops."

A total of 269 reserve officers have been stripped of their military ranks in Lithuania this year on these grounds; the same has happened to 83 reserve officers in Latvia and 166 in Estonia. So the "punishing hand of Moscow" being shouted about by some of the mass media has nothing to do with it. There are some cases, incidentally, where people have asked us to reinstate them: We were too hasty and succumbed to outside influences, they say. Some reserve officers frankly admit that separatist, nationalist forces put them under great pressure by demanding that they hand in their military service cards. Many simply crumble under this psychological pressure.

That is the true picture. I would like to say with full responsibility that there have never been any other reasons for stripping people of their military titles apart from those I have just listed.

Landsbergis Appeals for Peaceful Political Process

LD2809133790 Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian 1200 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Appeal by Vytautas Landsbergis, chairman of the Lithuanian Supreme Council—live or recorded]

[Text] Esteemed listeners, I would like to draw your attention to those events, thoughts, demands, and questions which take place today in Lithuania in particular and also around Lithuania.

The main question is self-determination which has already been expressed and which must be consolidated by deeds, which must be brought to the solution of a peaceful political [words indistinct] an agreement with the Soviet Union's leadership. Progress is being made to this end.

You know that meetings, at least one meeting, will take place next week between the delegations of the Soviet Union and of the Republic of Lithuania. On the other hand, the United Nations and the U.S. Senate examine the problem of Lithuania and of all three Baltic republics.

This is not to the liking of all. We know this is not to the liking of those who have been regarding the territorial size and military might that could be used to threaten other countries as the main virtue of a state. We know where such attitudes have led and why changes started taking place in the thinking of the Soviet Union's leadership and in the whole community of the Union of Soviet Republics.

These changes are profound and they must lead to the formation of a new family of states and to the easing of the fate of this part of the world and of the world as a whole. Forces which wish to preserve their power are hindering this at all levels, including our small country of Lithuania. To hamper a positive political process it is essential to create tension, and disorders would also serve this purpose. Dissatisfaction has increased among the population, and this can be increased. This is dissatisfaction with the situation in the shops and with the supplies; dissatisfaction in the sphere of the implementation of the rights of self-government, the relations with the state, and in the attitude toward such symbols of the heritage of the past as some monuments standing in our towns and representing today only the past which reminds of so many insults.

It seems passions are being aroused around such personal questions. Those who arouse them can serve the same aim: a clash of groups of the population, groups of citizens, destabilization of social order, to hamper what I have mentioned here as the peaceful political process.

A meeting will take place today in Vilnius devoted to a date which is worthy of remembering. This is the day Hitler sold Lithuania to Stalin in the still undivided East Europe. This is the day when two years ago soldiers were beating people on Cathedral Square in Vilnius. Luckily there were no casualties then. But this event, protests, and investigations as to who was to blame have led to the fall of the leadership of that time—the Lithuanian Communist Party—and to the beginning to basic changes in Lithuania.

People intend to mark this day on Cathedral Square, but there are also forces, organizations, and groups that wish to expand this meeting; organize it in other parts of the city; and hold marches.

Here we all must be [passage indistinct]. Provocations, attacks on buildings and on monuments are possible. We are against such actions. People not politically conscious, or [passage indistinct].

I appeal to everyone to resist possible provocations, be conscious, and do not give in to [passage indistinct]. I call for calmness, I call [passage indistinct]. We must know from whom and where from provocative actions are coming. [passage indistinct].

Landsbergis Warns Against 'Arbitrary Actions'

LD2809154890 Vilnius Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Appeal by Vytautas Landsbergis, chairman of the Lithuanian Supreme Council—live or recorded]

[Text] Esteemed listeners and Lithuanian citizens, especially those who are in Vilnius today:

It is the anniversary of the day when Lithuania was sold in advance by one dictator to another, when it went over from Hitler's plans to Stalin's plans, and the day when two years ago demonstrators were beaten up in Cathedral Square in Vilnius. It is worthwhile to remember and mark this day.

But all those who intend to take part in a meeting should take certain circumstances into consideration. For some time now, and especially recently, we have been observing great efforts to incite people against each other, incite them because of their different nationalities, their different views, their different opinions as to how one or another of Lithuania's problems should be solved. These matters should be solved in accordance with the law, democratically.

But the most dangerous incitement is an incitement to use violence or a threat to use violence and take arbitrary actions. All this is being strengthened and intensified at a time when, on the one hand, world attention is once again turning toward Lithuania, when Lithuania's independence is being discussed at the United Nations, when today in a few hours' time it will be examined at the U.S. Senate, and on the other hand the Kremlin leaders are making more peaceful and better gestures, issuing an invitation for talks which may develop into negotiations with the Soviet Union on Lithuania's independence.

In this situation it would be very harmful to us if someone were to succeed in provoking any scuffles, disturbances, fights, or attacks on buildings or monuments. We would lose our good name and a pretext or an occasion could be created for the use of military force, and maybe for a threat once again by the Soviet Union's president to use his illegal rights in Lithuania.

They would like to show to the world that, allegedly, these people in Lithuania only talk about democracy and rights, including their right to independence, but in reality they do not obey even their own laws and do not adhere to democratic principles and the state order. Thus other people must come and introduce order in Lithuania.

Therefore, I would like to ask all who intend to take part in the meeting in Cathedral Square to limit the meeting to this, not to listen to calls to go somewhere else, to some other government buildings, or to some remaining monuments in the Vilnius squares that are still standing. The problem of these is being solved according to the law, by decisions of the Vilnius City Council in agreement with those who may be affected by the future of these monuments. Any wilful acts must be condemned not only as a illegal behavior and the violation of public order but also as an offence to civic discipline and civic awareness.

Landsbergis Discusses Ties With Germany

LD3009094890 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0658 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Vilnius (ADN)—Lithuania's President Vytautas Landsbergis expects the United Germany to support Lithuania in its striving for independence. In an ADN interview for the day of Germany unity, the politician stated that his republic has the same right to be independent that Germany has to be united.

Therefore, after the unification of Germany the independence of the Baltic states also has to be secured. "I believe that the united Germany will support this process and will also continue to play its role in the creation of the common European home," Landsbergis said. It would be a concrete step in this direction if Germany were to support the right of Lithuania to be involved in the Helsinki process and in the forthcoming CSCE conference in Paris. Landsbergis said that Lithuania is a kind of "test case" that will show the values that the risen-again Germany is governed by.

The Germans play an "infinitely important role" in the "restoration of legality and stability" in Europe. According to the Lithuanian president, Germany still bears responsibility for the violation of international law and stability caused through World War II. It is desirable for the united Germany to fulfill its "historic mission" by promoting friendship and cooperation between East Europe and the West instead of mistrust and hostility.

With the unification, one consequence of World War II has been eliminated. However, another consequence of the war was the "incorporation of the Baltic states in the USSR" after the signing of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, Landsbergis said. Therefore, the unification of Germany and the independence of Lithuania are the solution to one and the same problem. According to Landsbergis, the end of World War II will be sealed only with the restoration and consolidation of the independence of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. Here the border question is an important problem. The Lithuanian president spoke in favor of a condemnation, binding under international law, of the violent separation of the Klaipeda area—the former Memel area—from Lithuania on the eve of World War II, and thus a statement that the document of 1939 was null and void from the time of its signing. In addition, Poland as well as Germany should give a guarantee of the inviolability of its eastern borders. Only in this way can new areas of tension and political speculation be prevented.

Landsbergis approved the restoration of the traditional economic and cultural cooperation between Lithuanians and Germans. Alongside the founding of joint enterprises, they could jointly take care of the preservation of the cultural memorials in the Kaliningrad area—the former Koenigsberg—where both Germans and Lithuanians had important sites in their history.

Lithuanian Market Protection Affects Kaliningrad

LD3009165590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 30 Sep 90

[From the "Vremya" newcast]

[Text] As of 1 October, the decision of the Lithuanian Government on the protection of the rebublic's market comes into force. Its first consequences have been felt by Kaliningraders. The bridge across the Neman which has joined Lithuania with the Kaliningrad Oblast of Russia for almost half a century. [sentence as heard] It is likely that after the opening of a Lithuanian customs point here they will separate.

[Reporter Chekalin] We have stood on the checkpoint for less than an hour and have been convinced that the former bridge of friendship is operating in one direction. Dozens of vehicles with Lithuanian number plates are transporting fresh and canned fish, household goods, and construction materials out of the oblast. Even cattle bought from private operators is being transported out. So far, the Russian market is suffering from protection of the Lithuanian market.

[K.I. Kapranov, chairman of the Sovetsk town sovietn] Market relations envisage open borders and free trade. Unfortunately our Lithuanian comrades, with whom we had a close, neighborly friendship for so many years, do not quite interpret this in the right way.

[Chekalin] We will never get to a real market economy in this manner. After all, market relations mean open doors for trade.

[Kapranov] I quite agree with you and repeat that the Lithuanian comrades have not adopted the right path.

[Chekalin] Now the Kaliningrad Oblast soviet of people's deputies is preparing its decision on the closure of

borders to protect its market economy. A customs war is beginning which has always been considered contrary to healthy market relations.

Landsbergis 'Expected' To Visit White House

LD2909220490 Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Report by correspondent Roma Pakieniene]

[Text] Lithuania's Supreme Council Chairman Vytautas Landsbergis is expected at the White House—this was stated yesterday by a representative of the U.S. National Security Council at a meeting with activists of the U.S.-Lithuanian Bendruomene [community].

According to our information, remarked the U.S. Government official, Vytautas Landsbergis is interested in this type of meeting.

According to the Voice of America, the meeting with the American-Lithuanian Bendruomene activists took place on the day following the presentation to President Bush of a letter from the American-Lithuanian Bendruomene leadership in which a reference had been made to a possible trip to the United States by Vytautas Landsbergis in November of this year.

Brazauskas Discusses Reorganization of Party

LD2909212990 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1842 GMT 29 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Serafim Bykhun]

[Text] Vilnius, 29 Sep (TASS)—Algirdas Brazauskas, first secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party [CPL] Central Committee, which left the CPSU at the beginning of this year, criticized today the leadership of this Baltic republic for errors in the movement for independence.

He stated in his report at the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum: "Many mistakes could have been avoided if the policy of the leadership was more balanced and better thought-out. The 'jump' strategy they chose came more from good intentions than a real understanding of the actual state of affairs".

The "step-by-step" program toward Lithuanian independence drawn up by the Communist Party, Brazauskas then said, was understood abroad better than in the republic. But the present situation is such that it is impossible to resolve existing problems of establishing the statehood of Lithuania without talks with the USSR, he thinks.

Touching on the further reorganization of the CPL, its leader spoke for turning the party into "a qualitatively new modern political organization under the conditional name of the Social-Democratic Alliance of Lithuania". Members of the CPL would form the basis of such an alliance.

He recalled that at the beginning of the year the social-democratic orientation of the party was chosen at the 20th CPL congress and the present name, in the opinion of Brazauskas, was preserved out of purely tactical reasons.

As we know, approximately every fifth delegate at this congress expressed disagreement with the decisions of the congress and refused to leave the CPSU, and at present there is also a CPL/CPSU as well as the CPL.

Participants of the CPL Central Committee Plenum spoke in favor of resolving questions of changing the party name and its future activities in the sphere of politics, economy, and culture at the congress planned for 1-2 December. A committee for the preparation of the congress, headed by Brazauskas, was approved.

Lithuania's Saudargas Departs for New York

LD2809232790 Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Lithuanian Foreign Affairs Minister Algirdas Saudargas departed for New York today via Moscow. There he will attend a meeting of 35 European and North American foreign ministers scheduled for 1-2 October.

Prior to his departure, Algirdas Saudargas noted he is carrying out the government's foreign policy program, seeking participation in Hesinki two [word indistinct]. The Lithuanian foreign affairs minister declared that Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia seek to re-enter the association of nations from which they had been removed in 1940.

According to Algirdas Saudargas, the first task is to enter the circle of the 35 countries' foreign ministers and to raise the Lithuanian question once more in New York and subsequently in Paris.

Lithuanian Central Committee Plenum Meets 29 Sep

LD2909143990 Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian 1300 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Political, economic, and cultural work facing the independent Lithuanian Communist Party, plans for its further reorganization, preparations for the congress, and other problems are being discussed today at the sixth Party Central Committee Plenum.

Lithuanian-Kirghiz Cooperation Agreement Signed

LD2809223290 Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian 1900 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Today in Tallinn, Lithuanian Prime Minister Kazimiera Prunskiene and Apas Dzhumagular, chairman of the Kirghiz Council of Ministers, signed an interstate agreement on economic, scientific, legal, and cultural cooperation until 1996 between the two republics.

According to this agreement, Kirghizia will supply Lithuania with wool, technical equipment, instruments, and electrical [word indistinct] while they will receive from Lithuania light industry products, machine products, and confectionary products.

Lithuania Elects Pro-Independence Democrat Leader

LD0110013590 Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithhuanian 2100 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Members of the Lithuanian Democrat Party assembled at their congress in Vilnius today.

The most important goal of this party's activity is to contribute, in the most active manner, to the implementation of Lithuania's independence.

The republic council and the party council presidium were elected, today. This was preceded by festivities. A mass was celebrated at the Archcathedral and the Lithuanian Democrat Party's flag was blessed.

Supreme Council Deputy Saulius Peceliunas was elected chairman of the Lithuanian Democrats' Party.

New Lithuanian Weekly Appears on Newsstands

LD2809122590 Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian 1005 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Summary] A new Russian-language social-political weekly called GOLOS LITVY [Voice of Lithuania] was published yesterday. Editor Domas Sniukas says this weekly will be aimed at the Soviet Union's readers. The editorial wishes to inform them about Lithuania because the central press writes very little about it or misleads the readers.

Soviet Troops Occupy Riga Procuracy, Press

LD2809231190 Vilnius International Service in English 2130 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Attempts have been made to accomplish in Riga what did not come off in Vilnius. Today Soviet troops occupied the procurator's office and the press. Back in the spring the same strategy proved a flop in Lithuania. The procurator sent in by Moscow failed to find like-minded in Vilnius even with the help of the Army. So what is going to happen in Riga?

[Name indistinct] on the line from Riga: The Moscow authorities refuse to recognize Latvian parliament decision taken earlier this week to set up its own procurator's office instead of the present Moscow-controlled. Since the Moscow-appointed procurator refuses to leave his post, two procurator's offices are functioning in Latvia beginning with this week.

The Soviet procurator-general, Suhharev, has announced Latvian parliament decision to create its own procurator's office and post to be illegal. He has called on the Soviet president to annul the law passed by the Latvian parliament.

Both the newly appointed procurator general of the Latvian Republic and his deputies have been sacked from their posts in the still-functioning procurator's office of the Latvian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic]. Special units guarding this building have been given orders not to allow the two gentlemen to enter the building.

Late last night special police units have taken over the main printing house in the Latvian capital, Riga. They have followed request by the Moscow-faithful Communist Party here. The move was taken as the Latvian parliament decided to carry out its decision to nationalize the printing house. It is a former state property which was illegally taken over by the Communist Party in the sixties. All the major newspapers and magazines are currently being printed there. The parliament has decided to turn it into a shareholder's association, leaving the present illegal owner, the Communist Party, 30 percent of the shares.

Commentators say it seems that the local Communist Party has made use of the situation when Moscow authorities say special police units should comply with Latvian interior minister's orders, and they in their turn refuse to do it saying Moscow alone has the command over us. Consultations between a parliament commission and Latvia interior minister are under way at the moment. It is 5:30 Latvian time. The conflict, which very much reminds of the Lithuanian situation this spring, continues. This is [name indistinct] for Radio Vilnius in Riga.

In a later telephone dispatch [name indistinct] has stated that residents of the Latvian capital have started gathering outside the printing house, members of the self-defense organization among them. No incidents are reported. A spokesman for the Latvian Interior Ministry has made a statement that as long as the Soviet troops just stand by without interfering with the work of the printing house, the Latvian police will not intervene.

Latvian Citizens Congress Ends Deliberations

LD3009195590 Moscow TASS in English 1937 GMT 30 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Galina Kuchina]

[Text] Riga September 30 TASS—The third session of the congress of Latvian citizens who regard themselves legal representatives of those who lived in Latvia before 1940 and their descendants, ended its work here today.

Although the agenda did not provide for a debate on the activities of the republican parliament and the government, nearly each speaker dealt with this topic and heavily criticized "bodies of the corrupted regime".

Supreme Soviet deputies who are members of the People's Front parliamentary group and at the same time represent Civil Movement, tried to convince the gathering that the conclusion of a union treaty with the USSR and the granting of citizenship to all Latvian residents are out of question.

Speakers were especially concerned over forthcoming privatisation provided for by the government programme. "We must not permit non-Latvians to lay hands on factories and houses," they said.

The congress adopted a document on principles of converting property: At first, former property should be returned to its former owners and their heirs. Then, what is left should be privatised, taking into account the rights of true citizens.

The documents also show a possible source of compensation if property has been lost. Its loss as well as interest over all previous years should be recouped from the USSR budget.

The congress also approved a decision on the application of the 1919 citizenship law, suspending half of its articles "until constitutional bodies of power (Sejm) resumes their operation."

The document says this Sejm should be elected only by those who populated Latvia before June 17, 1940 and their descendants.

Republican lawmakers assured delegates that the republican parliament takes into account the demands of the civil movement. The legislature will debate the second reading of amendments to a bill on alternative military service on Tuesday.

Their aim is to exclude the service of Latvian conscripts in the Soviet Army. The republican parliament has also prepared a bill on the right to land of only Latvian citizens.

Estonian Defense Official Views Border Defense

LD2809105790 Tallinn Domestic Service in Estonian 0600 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Who is going to guard the Estonian border, and do we have enough men for this? Today's PAEVALEHT carries an interview with Andrus Oovel, chief of staff of the Estonian Home Defense, on this matter.

The Republic of Estonia's economic border is 520 km long. It is planned to build 28 control posts along this line, eight of which will have customs facilities. To man these posts, 10,120 persons will be needed. That way 10 people will be continuously working at each of the points. There will be a shiftwork system until the border guards, made up of alternative army service young men, start to guard the economic border. There will also be four policemen with automatic rifles on guard at each of the border points. Border guards, however, will be allocated truncheons. There are no facilities, and perhaps no need for any more than that at present.

Andrus Oovel thinks that the implementation of the economic border will take place in three stages and should be complete by January 1991. Naturally, control points of the economic border will also be set up at railway stations, ports, and airports. The aims of establishing an Estonian economic border is to create conditions for the protection of our domestic market, for immigration control, and for the fight against crime.

Andrus Oovel also says that if the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic does not wish to recognize an economic border in a bilateral agreement, the control points will not be built on the Estonian side either. No border of any kind could ever be unilateral, he asserts.

RSFSR

RSFSR Delays Implementation of '500-Day' Plan

AU0110114090 Paris AFP in English 1116 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Moscow, Oct 1 (AFP)—The Russian Federation has decided to delay by a month the start of its implementation of the "500-Day" plan to replace socialism by capitalism in the largest of the Soviet Union's 15 republics, the unofficial news agency INTERFAX reported Monday.

The agency quoted Gennadiy Filshin, the deputy prime minister of Russia, as saying the delay was caused by the Soviet parliament's failure to merge two contrasting plans to turn the Soviet economy into a market economy.

Russia had planned to start implementing the 500-Day plan from October 1. This date has now been pushed back to November 1.

Russia had chosen the more ambitious of the two plans, also known as the Shatalin Plan, but the Soviet parliament has not ruled out incorporating elements from the Ryzhkov Plan as it tries to draft a compromise plan.

The Shatalin plan was drafted by a committee led by the economist Stanislaw Shatalin, by Russian President Boris Yeltsin and by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

The other plan was drafted by a team led by Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov. Mr. Gorbachev expressed a preference for the first plan, but in view of Mr. Ryzhkov's threat to resign if his plan was discarded, Mr. Gorbachev has sought to combine the two plans.

Legislators, Military Discuss Issues of Concern

PM2809123190 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by I. Demchenko: "Peace Talks With the Military"]

[Excerpts] As we reported yesterday, the Russian parliament and government have met with military specialists. The aim of the conference was to determine the Army's role under the new economic conditions. [passage omitted]

It is no coincidence that the questions that the military leaders put to the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Government and the architects of the market transition program adopted by the republic's parliament were often not specific. Answering them, G. Yavlinskiy, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, stressed constantly that military servicemen are also citizens of the state like everyone else and must enjoy the same rights. And the problem of raising prices in individual regions must be resolved the same way for them as for all people on fixed incomes—through indexing. Prime Minister Silayev added that the program—which, you will recall, representatives of 14 representatives worked on—stipulated particularly that after the conclusion of an economic agreement, the leaderships of the republics do not have the right to raise prices for a certain list of goods and services. Violation of this agreement entails rigorous sanctions. Meanwhile, Russia has already signed several treaties with other republics, and the rest are waiting in line. In particular, Ivan Stepanovich added, the Estonian prime minister is due in Moscow Saturday [22 September] to discuss the terms of an economic agreement between the republics.

The housing question is a most urgent one for servicemen. Many military leaders cited specific examples where local soviets are building housing using resources allocated by the Defense Ministry but are not giving apartments to servicemen. In turn, Soviet leaders also have important questions to put to the Army—primarily relating to the closed camps where sometimes tens of thousands of civilians live but where there is effectively no power but that of the commander.

The transition to market relations requires a reexamination of mutual relations between the Army and local organs of power in the area of helping the national economy, land ownership, and perhaps even a new approach to questions of the upkeep of the Armed Forces. R. Khasbulatov, first deputy chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, noted that the draft Union treaty, which is a component of the market transition program, says that each sovereign republic or state which joins the Union is obliged to make certain contributions to the upkeep of the Army and Navy. Whether those appropriations are fixed or whether the scale varies in line with the situation will be up to the politicians and parliamentarians to decide.

During the dialogue, which was mainly businesslike and constructive in character, there were several situations when the discussion could have developed into mutual recriminations and a discussion of problems far removed from the actual topic of the conversation. It seemed to me that this was indeed the hostile intention of the question from Colonel General A. Makashov, commander of the Volga-Urals District, a question entirely divorced from the context of the discussion: In the Russian parliament's opinion, which of our neighbors on the planet has territorial claims against us, and who is our ally. The situation was defused by G. Yavlinskiy's quick-witted retort: The answer to that question is a military secret and cannot be disclosed in the presence of television correspondents. The same discordant note was sounded in the reproachful and sermonizing speech from Colonel Rutskov, a regimental commander from the same district who vented his wrath on the "slick mafiosi from the cooperatives," the "total license and impunity of the mass media," and the "never-ending sessions" of the parliamentarians. The colonel volunteered to teach everyone patriotism and the "science of winning" which cost the blood of many generations, and advised parliamentarians to take a course of lectures at the military academy....

I would repeat that, generally speaking, the discussion was respectful and businesslike and in many respects helped the sides understand each other's position. The soldiers in particular were very interested in whether Russia intends to create its own Armed Forces. This question was asked several times and the republic's leaders gave the same answer: It does not. [passage omitted]

Komsomol Plenum Calls for 'Spiritual Revival'

PM3009193790 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Sep 90 First Edition p 2

[Report by V. Mazurov: "Young Russia's Choice"]

[Text] The Second RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Komsomol [Leninist Communist Youth League] Central Committee Plenum, which ended in Moscow yesterday, called for state and public organizations to pool their efforts to realize the program "Russia's Spiritual Revival." It is the delegates' unanimous opinion that the introduction of the young generation to the cultural, spiritual, and moral heritage of Russia's peoples must be one of the main areas of activity for the Russian Komsomol.

Discussing the report by V. Yelagin, first secretary of the RSFSR Komsomol Central Committee, on the current moment, the plenum participants acknowledged that the situation in the organization fully reflects the unstable sociopolitical situation in the republic. The majority of Russian Komsomol members have given up vigorous activity, Komsomol committees are seen to be in disarray, and organizations are disbanding themselves. After the debate it was decided to transform the RSFSR

Komsomol into a youth organization—or maybe several youth organizations—with clearly expressed political positions.

The plenum participants supported the efforts of the Supreme Soviet and Government of the Russian Federation aimed at implementing economic reforms and expressed readiness to promote the realization of the "500 days" program. A unanimous opinion was expressed on the elaboration in the republic of a system of measures of social protection and guarantees for young people under conditions of economic reforms. The RSFSR Supreme Soviet Youth Affairs Committee was instructed to organize a "roundtable" of Russia's youth organizations with a view to consolidating them.

The plenum advocated the RSFSR Komsomol's cooperation with all parties, organizations, and movements.

G.A. Zyuganov, secretary of the RSFSR Communist Party Central Committee, addressed the plenum.

Russian, Ukrainian Premiers Meet 28 Sep

LD2809192190 Moscow TASS in English 1735 GMT 28 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondents Yuriy Kozmin and Pavel Ostrov]

[Text] Moscow September 28 TASS—Prime Ministers of Russia and the Ukraine Ivan Silayev and Vitaliy Masol met here today in connection with the forthcoming signing of an intergovernmental agreement on economic cooperation for 1991 and further development of cultural ties between the two largest republics of the Soviet Union.

Valentin Sergeyev, chief of the Information Department of the Russian Council of Ministers, told TASS that the sides have reached complete accord regarding the text of the document and agreed for its signing on October 8-9, when Masol returns from a trip to the U.S.

Dearth of Goods in Moscow Stems From Republics

PM3009172590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Sep 90 Second Edition p 6

[Report by TASS correspondent B. Shestakov: "Is the Capital So Replete?"]

[Text] I have often heard accusations—regrettably, even seriously—leveled at the "voracious" capital. One cannot hide the fact that Moscow was fed artificially for many years on the grounds of its functions as the capital.

Today, however, a visit to the capital's stores and markets and an acquaintance with Moscow City Committee for Statistics reports shows us that these times are past. Empty shelves, endless lines, and fantastic prices—that is the real picture of trade in Moscow. Small wonder since Russia, Belorussia, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, and the Ukraine have cut their shipments of meat, sausage, dairy products, sugar, fruit, and vegetables to the capital.

Deliveries of all kinds of fabrics, sewn and knit goods, perfumes, and cosmetics have declined at the same time. Radio receivers, televisions, vacuum cleaners, construction materials, and crockery cannot be found on sale.

But on the other hand, every Muscovite who has been on the verge of fainting at the sight of market prices will confirm that the figures there are almost 28 percent higher than last year. This is of course an average indicator: For instance, dairy products have more than doubled while meat and poultry prices have risen by 70 percent.

Add to this the inevitably higher costs of transport, housing, and services in a large city. And remember that Moscow is not only—as we regrettably tend to think—the home of officials and "black marketeers," but above all a major industrial center whose output is in demand everywhere. Admittedly, there are alarming signs that Muscovites are not displaying their former activeness in concluding contracts for deliveries. Nonetheless, let leaders who are today refusing at a stroke of the pen to fulfill their commitments to the working capital think again.

Sobchak Discusses Being Proposed for Premiership

LD2909221590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1947 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1947 GMT on 29 September, as part of the "Before and After Midnight" program, carries an interview with Anatoliy Aleksandrovich Sobchak, people's deputy and chairman of the Leningrad City Soviet, by program presenter Molchanov. Sobchak is asked his view on rumors that he is being proposed for the post of prime minister. Sobchak says:

"Well, all sorts of fairy tales are going round about that, but I think that is out of the question, first and foremost because I think the post is in our country unnecessary under the present system. After the proclamation and adoption of declarations by the Union republics, I think the organization of Union power should be quite different. In general, it is necessary to eliminate the Council of Ministers by wholly reorganizing it, leaving a very small circle of general ministries for finance, defense, and culture which should be directly subordinate to the president. Then a vertical structure of power—executive power—should be created, such as we do not have today.

"This is one of the reasons for this general falling apart at the seams, so to speak, along ethnics, territorial, or regional lines; this exaggeration of the concept of sovereignty; furthermore, our illiteracy is demonstrated here when even regions are declaring their sovereignty

without understanding that this is a concept which has from time immemorial belonged only to a state and to statehood."

Popov, Sobchak Discuss Problems Facing Soviets

90UN2869A Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 20 Sep 90 p 2

[Article by KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA correspondent Irina Potekhina, with excerpts from interviews with Leningrad and Moscow city officials; date and place not given: "The Rayon Power"]

[Text] *"And this, my boy, is the Aurora cruiser. The revolution started after she fired her gun."*

"Mommy, when is the Aurora going to shoot again?" (From a conversation heard in a Leningrad street car.)

We enjoyed so much the crispness and the freshness of the first sessions of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Then we got used to them and stopped paying attention. Later they started to annoy us. A year later we plucked up our courage and voted for the deputies to the local soviets. And we pinned all of our hopes on them this time. Now we are switching them to the Russian parliament.

That is all. There is no one else to expect or hope for. Whether we like it or not, the new power is right in front of us—all of it. It is ours. It was born and raised by us.

"What we have on the other side of this window now is the middle of 1917," said one of my friends who is quite democratically minded. "It seems that the revolution is already behind us—the 'February' one. And we have a new government—the 'provisional' government. And the lack of government control over the country is near a catastrophe. It seems that the people will start begging for a dictatorship any minute...."

On the day when the Leningrad Soviet opened its first session, their colleagues from the Moscow Soviet came to congratulate them. They expressed their sincere joy at the fact that the democratic wing got two-thirds of the votes in Leningrad. After a while it was the Leningraders' turn to be enthusiastic when the Moscow Soviet elected Gavriil Popov their chairman. After this the Leningrad Soviet deputies asked Anatoliy Sobchak to run for the similar position in Leningrad.

These two city soviets are quite unlike each other. They are as unlike as the cities themselves: the noisy, self-assured Moscow and the proud Leningrad that has not yet come to terms with the loss of its status of the capital. But the difference between them both and other Russian cities is even greater. And this seems to have made them feel closer to each other and allowed them in a way to play the role of pioneers as the new system is being formed.

The Leningrad Soviet decided not to allocate any money for a celebration of the 120th anniversary of Lenin's birthday. In the Moscow Soviet, four of the deputies swiped the Lenin bust from the session hall and hid it under the stairs. One of the first issues discussed in Leningrad was the problem of removing the party crowd from the world-famous architectural monuments. Between sessions they were discussing a better destiny for the former Smolny Institute. And in Moscow, on a respectively grander scale, they tried to remember who was the real owner of the Kremlin.

When both Moscow and Leningrad Soviet chairmen announced they were quitting the party and called upon the chairmen at all levels to follow suit, nobody was surprised at their acting in unison.

"Whenever I talk to Popov," said Sobchak, "I have the feeling that I am talking to a mirror. Our problems cannot be more alike."

The huge slogan of recent times "Leningrad Is Competing With Moscow" has acquired a purely political meaning today. The leaders have gone so far and their problems became so crucial that the interregional deputies' group issued a special appeal to the democratic forces to help those two cities, to help because of the increase of anti-Leningrad and anti-Moscow actions of the reactionaries.

All Powers—To Account!

A rumor swept over Leningrad a month ago: A major conflict was brewing between the Leningrad Soviet and Sobchak. Every day brought new details of the increasing numbers of deputies who decided to dethrone the chairman they themselves had elected. He turned out to be too "strict and disloyal" towards them; he was too "autocratic and presumptuous". But at the same time they would add right away that he could not be any different: The deputies had been talking since April, but their eloquence did nothing but breed problems.

Parallel "news" came from Moscow. It seemed that Popov was resigning....

Even if we suppose that there is nothing behind those rumors, the very fact of their appearance means something. It seems that the people's opinion tries to shelter their favorites from the gloomy shadow that is wider and wider spreading over the new power.

As recently as a year ago, people visiting Leningrad were going crazy with the size of the rallies in front of the Kazan cathedral and with the tempestuous birth of People's Front leaders at the mass meetings. Now they were staring at the new slogan in the Nevskiy avenue: "All Powers—To Account!" More and more often local newspapers were complaining of the revolutionary Petersburgian genes that would not let the city power break away from the circle of destruction. More and more often they were lamenting that sensible Moscow was able to step over this line as they simply started working.

Moscow, however, was not in a hurry to accept congratulations. While they were notably lacking the emotional tension of the northern metropolis, they were mentioning the very same problems as the city on the Neva. And the Moscow deputies were scaring each other with prophesies: If we do not break the old system, the old system will devour us and we will not even notice it.

So what does the future hold in store for this new power that already has six months of experience?

[Gavriil Popov, Moscow Soviet chairman] If people think that once they win the elections they acquire some power, they just do not understand the mechanics of ruling a country. We do not need power of the kind that the party had because that power was nothing other than dictatorship and tyranny. The power that the old executive committee [ispolkom] had we can get very quickly, but it is totally useless. Besides, the soviet should not even take most of its functions upon itself. If we do, we will very soon become a new city party committee.

Realistically the essence of democracy lies in the separation of the three powers—not services but powers.

Our tragedy stems from the fact that we **never had any separation between the representative and executive powers.**

Here is what Lenin said: The soviet issues a directive and the soviet itself executes it, and that is the way to deterioration. Therefore the most important thing today is **to strengthen the power of ispolkoms.** They do not need it any less than the soviets do.

I tell the deputies: If you want to do the work itself, go to the ispolkom. But in the soviet you will have no executive functions, and only in that case we can make demands to the ispolkom. But once we adopt ridiculous decisions of the kind "we do not need the ispolkom, we will do it all ourselves," we inevitably follow the Lenin concept of the government with all of its deadends and traps. This concept failed in its time, and did so during the very first month. It was impossible to give it up. So they started to attach a system on the side and that system—the party—became the real backbone of the state. The soviet was preserved as a facade. And now when it found itself really at power we discovered that it is totally helpless.

[Anatoliy Sobchak, Leningrad Soviet chairman] The majority of our present deputies are rather casual people; they are street rally types. They are some neo-Bolsheviks ready for destroying but incapable of creating. Neither do they know quite well what they have to create.

Another weakness of the present deputy corps lies in the fact that these representatives of the people actually represent no one but themselves in the soviets. And for that reason they find it incredibly difficult to agree on anything. They plunged so relentlessly into the faction activity as if it were some petty kitchen intrigue. For over a month I have been asking the deputies to give me lists of factions and of their members. They should have some determined positions and programs. But what we have in reality is the deputy belongs to one faction today and to another one tomorrow; he adheres to one set of views today but tomorrow to another one.

As soon as the multiparty government system gets established, as soon as various directions are well defined, the present deputies will inevitably leave the political arena. The majority of them will.

[Popov] In essence, they are just one step. And they do not aim to take power away from anyone. The current soviets have to do something that cannot be done by anyone else, and that is change the basics of our life. Rationing cards and "Moscow money" are not the main thing though, of course we could not do without them. [Popov ends]

Both the Soviets passed a difficult road towards understanding this goal. And it is even harder to ensure that it is put to practice. Deputies are drowning in city problems; having no organizational experience they get sidetracked by their fractional ambitions.

And another blow came several days ago when Aleksandr Shchelkanov, Leningrad city soviet executive committee chairman, decided to resign.

A very serious analysis of the city situation was conducted at a seminar on the political and socioeconomic situation in Leningrad. The Leningrad Soviet deputies and experts participated in it. In their final document they predicted the coming events: Shchelkanov found himself in the minority in the ispolkom which is a collective body. As the result he lost every possibility of realizing progressive decisions as well as withstanding the destructive processes.

The situation proved no less complex for Sobchak, the political leader of the soviet who had taken full responsibility for the fate of the city. The chairman could not find sufficient support within the soviet as it declined to elect chairman deputies suggested by him. Therefore he had to pass various decisions relying not so much on collective bodies—such as the presidium and commissions—but on his own knowledge, experience, and energy as well as on his political connections and the immense prestige he enjoys among the constituency.

Under those conditions one can notice a trend that may be of advantage only to the old bureaucracy. The trend is to have the soviet chairman and the ispolkom chairman in opposition to each other (or force them into opposition?—I. Potekhina). And that of course is something alien to either of them.

Birds Above the City

Skeptics predicted that the democratic Leningrad Soviet will find itself under pressure from four sides. On one—the oblast party committee [obkom] will try to suffocate it. On the second—it will run into the hidden

sabotage of the ispolkom officials. On the third—it cannot avoid a conflict with the oblast soviet which has been formed according to the traditional scheme. On the fourth—the city authorities will be unable to find reliable helpers because the "Democratic Elections—90" bloc ran out of steam before they could elect quality deputies to the rayon soviets.

What do we have at present then?

The obkom displayed a certain interest in the city soviet at first, but later they switched to an observer status. Seemingly they decided that the soviet will not go too far even without a stumbling block put in its way. We cannot demand anything from the ispolkom as the Leningrad Soviet was not able to form it properly. After the debate on harvesting they managed to find common language with the oblast soviet. But as for the rayon soviets, who could have thought that a confrontation with those can be caused by anything other than their weakness and passivity! But on the contrary, they also desired to become a power.

Moscow Soviet Deputy Chairman Sergey Stankevich just lifted his hands helplessly when the conflict between the city and the rayon authorities reached the critical point: "They have already declared that birds flying over their territory are owned by the rayon too."

At this very time the chairmen of the rayon soviets in Leningrad were collecting signatures under a telegram to the President's Council: "Sobchak decided to conduct an experiment by changing the power structure in the city for which he intends to cancel the rayon soviets altogether! Some rayon soviet chairmen threatened to raise the people against the mayor, thinking that they have closer contacts with the population. And in Moscow some of the rayon leaders refused to obey the city soviet, as they intended to build a glorious future in their "separately taken rayon" without any instructions from above."

[Aleksandr Muzykantskiy, Moscow gorispolkom deputy chairman] "Do you know what principle was used for drawing the limits of current rayons? You will never guess! It was the party principle so that the number of registered Communists was more or less the same to make the raykom [rayon party committee] work easier. Any other purpose does not even come into the picture. So is there any reason to stick to those limits?"

[Sobchak] The present structure of the soviets has been irrational from the very beginning! It was meant to be manned by appointed persons—a sort of a party-administrative body. But when the soviets became soviets we ended up with: a) city level parliaments which by the number of people, by the way, equal the Congress of the entire United States! and: b) rayon level parliaments. And there are even village parliaments....

We also ended up having people in them who cannot figure out for anything which of them is the boss and what they have to deal with.

In Leningrad alone we have **two and a half thousand** such people!

And so we have a totally absurd system in which nobody is responsible for anything, but everybody tries to administrate."

[Popov] Dan, one of the Menshevik leaders, remarked very aptly in his memoirs on the Russian revolution: A characteristic feature of all the soviets is as follows—any tiny and insignificant soviet considers addressing the proletariat of the world its main function. But there is an inner logic in the democratic power, and the national parliament makes up the center of this power. It can be the parliament of the entire federative state, or the parliament of a Union republic. Everybody at the lower levels should understand that they are only soviets and not parliaments. And the lower the level, the more important their executive powers should be. There is one subtle point here—this executive power should be elected. So the Moscow city ispolkom chairman, Luzhkov, should not listen to Yeltsin or especially Gorbachev, but to those who can replace him at any time.

Gidaspov made a proposal at the party congress that caused everybody's indignation—he proposed to introduce governor-generals. But the time is already ripe for this idea, only the method is too conservative. Gidaspov suggested appointing governor-generals, but we should fight to have an elected mayor and an elected governor.

From this point of view our entire present system is inefficient. The rayon soviets are the most obsolete link in it because they do not have any economic, social, or any other stable interests, even though they are fighting desperately to be independent.

[Sobchak] Imagine that the rayons will start making their own decisions, about the sewer system for instance. But this system is one for the whole city! Any legislation at a rayon level is absurd. What we need is a strong executive power, and it should be appointed from above—by the city. We are in urgent need of a new election law, a new law on local soviets; we need a new constitution. And in accordance with them we need new elections for the mayor, or for oberburgermeisters. And they should be elected by the entire population. At present the soviet chairman is nothing but a speaker who has a limited range organization powers, but the voters are sure that he is the master in the city.

In this respect the perspectives in Leningrad are better than anywhere else. As we are given free economic zone status we will also receive—we count on it—the right to define our internal structure independently. There is a group of deputies in Leningrad, however, who are categorically against such a system of city administration. They consider it antidemocratic. They think it is much more democratic to talk endlessly and not do anything. And that is apart from the fact that they are not discussing any crucial problems but talk about procedural issues on which every one of them is a great expert. If this

conflict continues to grow, as some people in the Leningrad Soviet are very actively trying to ensure, I cannot exclude a possibility of appealing to the people of Leningrad for help. Let them decide by a referendum how to rule the city in future.

[Aleksansr Shchelkanov, Leningrad gorispolkom chairman] The problem of the rayon power is the most serious and the most pressing at present. To procrastinate in resolving it means to encourage the administrative mess. But it is a most dangerous step to tell the voters about the need to eliminate the rayon soviets. As recently as six months ago we were saying how remarkable it was to have those soviets at last. We were so happy as we were electing their deputies. The transfer to the new administration structure should not be seen as an infringement on democracy and we are already hearing such accusations. To avoid this we need to convince our voters that the rayon link is superfluous and it only adds to the uncontrollable situation.

The Underground Nomenclature

Yes, the familiar and for some people reliable system of rigid centralization is falling apart. But instead of vertical binding ties we need to find some other ones. And now, while the leaders are trying to figure out who is "more sovereign" than who, these ties are already surfacing.

We can already see quite distinctly something we did not know before—the "nomenclature capital." While the Leningrad deputies are shouting themselves hoarse discussing salaries of various permanent commission chairmen, a quiet "division of the world" is going on behind their backs. Some formerly high-positioned officials, together with some present ones who have moved to the left, are selling out the city property and transferring millions of rubles in money and real estate to the accounts of hastily appearing firms. A little more time and this process will become irreparable. We will not be dictating our conditions in the city, they will be dictated to us; it is difficult to argue with a moneybag. And such a dictatorship will prove to be much heavier than that of the party because it will be a hidden one.

For years we were being taught that politics is a confrontation of ideas. So it is not surprising that this very principle is being put to practice by our deputies. However, the precrisis condition appearing at present in the most progressive soviets proves that politics is a confrontation of interests—interests of different forces and different factions, each with its own down-to-earth goal.

[Popov] To resolve all the perestroyka problems, we have to start by dealing with the main one of them—by creating a tandem of power. The center which began the perestroyka used the support from the right from the first congress of soviets till the party congress. It was a right-centrist coalition that led the country to its present state.

But the center will remain the guiding force for a long time yet, it seems. And the question is who they are going to rely on in future.

We "down below" analyzed the situation and concluded that we need to set up a new form of a coalition that will combine the radical force of the soviet with the reasonably thinking forces in the bureaucracy. We convinced the deputies that this should be our basic principle.

If we succeed in forming a left-centrist coalition on a countrywide scale, we will be able to avoid the mistake of 1917. [Popov ends]

Maybe the new local politicians should postpone their fight of ideas and "sovereignties" for the sake of the most important interests, those of their voters? Maybe they should talk about that fight when they are able to afford the time for it.

Chukchi Region Declares Itself Autonomous Republic

LD2809210290 Moscow TASS in English 2040 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Anadyr, Extreme North, September 29 [date as received] TASS—A session of the district council of people's deputies of the Chukchi National District has proclaimed it to be the Chukchi Soviet Autonomous Republic. Delegates to the session appealed to the USSR Supreme Soviet, asking it to recognise the new republic as a subject of the Soviet federation.

According to the deputies, the idea to proclaim political and economic independence emerged long ago. The main purpose of this resolution is to define more clearly the status of the native peoples of the Chukchi peninsula, to ensure their social protection and to use rich natural resources of the district in a reasonable and efficient way.

Rostov Food, Goods Sold Only With Passport

PM2809112590 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by Vladimir But under "Direct Line" rubric: "Rostov Protects Its Counters"]

[Text] Rostov-na-Donu—From Monday 24 September food and industrial goods can be bought only on producing a passport.

This decision was adopted by a session of the City Soviet of People's Deputies. Later it is planned to have special cards [vizitki] made for customers.

The permanent commission on trade and public catering has ascertained that in the Ukraine, where previously Rostov inhabitants were making raids on stores posing as tourists, protective measures have been taken in neighboring krays and oblasts. Simultaneously meat products have gone up in price. And so the reverse

process began: Vehicles set off for Rostov Oblast and made straight for the stores. Stocks began to melt before the eyes....

Local Authorities Declare Vladivostok Open City

PM3009195190 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by correspondent Yuriy Balakirev: "Vladivostok Open to All"]

[Text] Vladivostok—A session of the Vladivostok City Soviet has proclaimed Vladivostok "open to the citizens and nationals of any country to visit and live in."

In justification of this decision, the deputies spoke of their desire to turn the city by the Pacific into an international center for science, culture, trade, tourism, and high-technology industry. It is planned to allow foreign ships free entry to Vladivostok's seaport.

For many decades the city was inaccessible to foreigners. Even Soviet citizens had to obtain permits to travel to the center of Maritime Kray on assignment, on vacation, or to visit relatives. I inquired at the gorispolkom [city soviet executive committee] just when the city was "closed" to foreigners and Soviets alike, by whom, and on the basis of what document. I learned that no document, no local soviet resolution, and no decision from central organs on this score had been found in Vladivostok.

"To all intents and purposes we 'opened' the city somewhat earlier," Yevgeniy Blinov, chairman of the gorispolkom said. "Life has forced us to face up to the Asia-Pacific region, to receive delegations, and to hold international meetings here. Now we are legally 'opening' Vladivostok. Its territory will be declared open to free enterprise with the participation of foreign capital. And we will be giving priority to the interests of the city's residents."

The deputies have appealed to the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet and Council of Ministers to lift any restrictions preventing the opening of the city.

UN Mission Visits Areas Affected by Chernobyl

LD2909160990 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0848 GMT 29 Sep 90

[By TASS correspondent Yuriy Lodkin]

[Excerpt] Bryansk, 29 Sep (TASS)—Today, for the first time since the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station, a UN mission headed by Gerald Hinteregger, assistant UN secretary general and leader of the UN Economic Commission for Europe, visited regions of Russia afflicted as a result of that catastrophe.

The UN representatives saw the town of Novozybkov 500 km south-west of Moscow, situated in a zone of permanent radiological monitoring in which the density of radiation pollution exceeds 16 curies per square kilometer.

Igor Gavrilov, deputy chairman of RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Council of Ministers, told the members of the mission that "a whole series of oblasts in Russia suffered. But Bryansk Oblast suffered most severely. There are 115,000 people—more than in Belorussia or the Ukraine—living here, in a zone of strict and permanent monitoring, who have to be resettled to clean territories by 1996."

The UN delegation visited a hospital, a radiology laboratory, and an orthodox church. [passage omitted]

Tatarstan To Establish Communist Party

PM2809111790 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by Alyans Sabirov under "Direct Line" rubric: "Tatarstan Communist Party Being Set Up"]

[Text] Kazan—The question of setting up a Communist Party of the Republic of Tatarstan has been raised at a report-and-election party conference in Kazan.

The question of transforming the republic party organization into an autonomous Communist Party will be discussed in primary organizations. But the holding of the first congress—after which the Communists of Tataria, although living in Russia, will nonetheless not be joining the Communist Party of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Republic]—is linked with the conclusion of the Union and Federative treaties.

The republic Supreme Soviet, with its resolution "On the Principles of Sovereignty of the People in the Tatar SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic]," prohibited leaders in state organs of power from holding any other posts. Based on that M. Shaymiyev, chairman of the Tatar SSR Supreme Soviet, has relinquished the post of party leader. In a contested election R. Idiatullin, previously oblast party committee secretary, was elected first secretary of the CPSU Republic Committee.

Kuybyshev Oblast's First Secretary Retires

LD2809103190 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] A Kuybyshev Oblast party committee plenum has taken place. Today it examined an organizational question. The plenum released Afonin from his duties as first secretary of the obkom in connecton with his retirement on pension. It has been decided to elect the first secretary of the oblast party committee at the second stage of the oblast party report-back and election conference, which will be held in September [as heard].

Western Republics

Ukrainians Demonstrate 30 Sep, 1 Oct

People 'Restless'

PM2809175190 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by correspondent S. Tsikora: "In Expectation of a Demonstration"]

[Text] The Ukraine is restless. An all-national demonstration and a warning political strike are scheduled for 30 September and 1 October in Kiev.

What are people demanding? Who is coming out against whom? Even just a few days before the planned actions it is not that easy to answer these questions. And not only because various politicized public organizations count themselves among "the truly healthy forces of society," declaring that millions of like-minded people are behind them. Diametrically opposed assessments are made of the very same events. Here is a most recent example: Chernigov Oblast Soviet Presidium adopted a resolution to restrict the activity of politicized public organizations and not to admit to the oblast "troublemakers from other parts of the republic." This was adopted to protect the population of Chernigov Oblast from external "political infections." But of course it all ended in a scandal: Those against whom the decision was directed regarded it as an unprecedented infringement of the constitutional rights of citizens and public organizations, perceiving Stalinist methods of showing "concern" for people behind the fact that "entry is prohibited to dissidents." Demonstrations, rallies, and acts of civil disobedience ensued.

Unfortunately, things have become restless today not only on the borders of Ukrainian oblasts and regions. Equally intense passions are aroused by sanctions aimed at protecting economic interests. I was told at the republic's MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] that permanently manned militia posts have now been set up at 64 points where the Ukraine's main highways intersect. They were set up after the republic Supreme Soviet Presidium adopted the decree banning the export from the Ukrainian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] of agricultural produce grown on its territory. There is almost universal checking of vehicles on the roads. The mass export of produce which they are trying to stop has been occasioned by the unilateral introduction of higher purchase prices in neighboring republics.

Of course, store shelves will not be filled with produce and goods as a result of this action alone. As in other parts of the country, the absence of the most essential goods in everyday life is the chief irritant to the population in the Ukraine. People refuse to understand and to tolerate any longer a situation whereby, having grown the biggest harvest in all years, they see in front of them totally empty shelves in the food stores. Therefore the strike committees' demand to the republic Supreme Soviet, which begins its work 1 October, features as one of its chief points the creation of a commission to monitor stocks of foodstuffs and industrial goods with a view to their priority supply to the population of the Ukraine.

Of course this is an emergency measure aimed at "lowering" the emotional tension in society. People associate the final resolution of the economic problem with the introduction of market relations. And here the Ukraine will evidently produce a surprise. At any rate, at the last sitting of the Ukrainian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet Presidium, which examined the question of the concept and the program of the republic's transition to the market, it was stated that the Ukraine is completing the elaboration of its own program. It is unlike Academician Shatalin's program and does not repeat points in the Union government's proposals. The details of the Ukrainian program have not yet been revealed, but it has been reported that its elaboration was necessitated by the discrepancy between the main points in the program of Shatalin and the Union government, and the points enshrined in the Ukraine's Declaration of State Sovereignty. In the opinion of the authors of the concept, the republic does not intend to delegate to the center such fundamental levers of the management of economic and social processes in society as prices, taxes, benefits, and finances.

This program, which already contains 12 sections running to 150 pages, will be submitted for discussion to the republic Supreme Soviet deputies during the very first week of the session's work. Its publication should eliminate tension in the region to a considerable degree, at any rate as regards the economic demands being put to the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet.

The resolution of political problems is a more complex matter—the depoliticization of state establishments, the Army, the KGB, and the MVD; the rejection of the new Union Treaty; the nationalization of part of the CPSU's property. There are also quite "burning" demands: the withdrawal of Ukrainian servicemen from points of interethnic conflicts, the distribution of draftees among units stationed in the republic.

I was told at the "Rukh" [Ukrainian People's Movement for Perestroyka] Secretariat that all these demands and appeals, transferred onto posters and banners, will be on show at the rally and demonstration in Kiev 30 September. Kiev City Soviet Executive Committee has given permission to hold them but, it is true, included the following point in its document: "The Secretariat of the Ukrainian People's Movement is to compensate the Kiev Streetcar and Trolleybus Administration and the City Motor Transport Association for the material costs of halting traffic at the time of the demonstration."

In the opinion of the city authorities, matters are more complex with regard to the all-national demonstration 1 October. No one has yet submitted an application to hold it. But people are arriving in Kiev all the time. The

Kiev militia has requested reinforcements to maintain order. In short, matters are becoming alarming in the city on the Dnepr.

Government Bans Rallies

LD2809203990 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Following an appeal from the democratic forces, rallies, picketing, and demonstrations are scheduled for 30 September and 7 October, and an all-Ukrainian political strike is scheduled for 1 October. A number of demands are being put forward: The new Union treaty should not be signed; the Union Government should resign; and the miners' demands should be met; CPSU property should be nationalized; and others.

Today the Supreme Soviet Presidium adopted a decision banning mass actions near the parliament building. As the INTERFAX correspondent reports, the organizers disagreed with this decision and intend to cancel it by appearing.

Detachments are expected to arrive from every oblast of the Ukraine. In the meantime, the Kiev Executive Committee of the Soviet of People's Deputies has resolutely spoken against the crusade to Kiev. It has called on the destructive forces to stop intensifying the political situation and on the population to stay calm.

Demonstrators Demand Independence

LD3009183590 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] An all-Ukrainian—as it was proclaimed by its organizers—rally and demonstration took place in Kiev today on the eve of the opening of a session of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian Republic. Participants from several oblasts were there. The leaders of Rukh and of the newly formed Republican, Democratic, and other parties—including people's deputies of the republic and of the country—spoke at the rally. Their main demand is that the Ukraine refuse to conclude a Union treaty, and that it announce its full independence from the Soviet Union. Calls for the dissolution of the republic's Supreme Soviet and the resignation of its government were heard as well as for the abolition of the Ukrainian Communist Party. Then the rally's participants displayed nationalist slogans and proceeded along the Kreshchatik, the city's main street. Fortunately, this procession passed without excesses.

Strike Not Supported by Labor

LD0110160290 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1357 GMT 1 Oct 90

[By UKRINFORM-TASS correspondent Stanislav Valnyanskiy]

[Text] Kiev, 1 Oct [TASS]—The call of the coordinating committee of the Ukrainian strike committees to hold a political strike throughout the republic on 1 October did not meet with the support of a majority of the republic's labor collectives.

As Viktor Salnikov, first deputy chairman of the Kiev City Executive Committee, told the UKRINFORM-TASS correspondent, not a single labor collective in the Ukrainian capital stopped work today. The people of Kiev, he claimed, "understand that taking part in a strike could only inflame the situation, worsen economic difficulties, and give rise to confrontation thus creating a threat to civil peace."

Just what provocative calls can lead to, residents and guests of Kiev were able to realize this morning when traffic in the center of the Ukrainian capital was paralyzed for two hours because of a march by many thousands of people. Ninety-five per cent of the participants in the action had come from the western oblasts of Ukraine. Their demands coincide with the calls of the Ukrainian Republican Party, the Union of Independent Youth of Ukraine, and the extremist wing of Rukh—the people's movement of Ukraine—for the resignation of the republican government and the dissolution of parliament.

Nor did calls for a strike find support among miners, metallurgists, chemical workers, builders, and representatives of other professions in the industrial Donbass. All the enterprises and institutions of that area are working at their normal pace today. Even those collectives which had said they were going to take part in a strike the day before did not do so. It was decided to hold a meeting here at which to put forward claims and present demands to the authorities.

In the Crimea, the entire adult population went out to harvest vegetables and fruit, including grapes, taking advantage of the fine weather. The call to strike met with support only in West Ukraine. A number of labor collectives in Lvov, Ternopol, and Ivano-Frankovsk did not work, some of them only for part of a shift. The same action was taken by two vehicle works in Kiev and Zhitomir Oblasts.

Parliament Meets; Demonstration Noted

LD0110120390 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] The second session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet began work in Kiev today. Deputies are to express their attitudes toward the new Union treaty, adopt a decree on power and to set out the path for implementing the declaration of Ukraine's sovereignty. The session is taking place in a complex socio-political situation. Pressure on the Ukrainian parliament from the opposition is intensifying.

As INTERFAX reports, a bloc of parties and groupings of the democratic tendency—including Rukh, the Ukrainian Republican Party, and the Greens—have planned a

number of protest actions for today. These are in particular a pan-Ukrainian political strike, rallies, and picketing. A correspondent from the agency reports that a crowd of people are moving toward the center of Kiev along the Kreshchatik, carrying blue and yellow flags and banners with slogans such as: "The new Union Treaty is a new bridle on the Ukraine," "The Supreme Soviet should resign," and "We demand the dissolution of the Ukrainian Communist Party."

The strike committee has reported that the reducing works [as heard], the (Korolev) association, the Elektronmash Association, Zoo number 2, and the Second Trolly bus depot are on strike in Kiev.

20,000 March in Kiev

AU0110160190 Paris AFP in English 1538 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Kiev, Soviet Union, Oct 1 (AFP)—Some 20,000 nationalists demonstrated outside the Ukrainian Parliament here Monday [1 October] in the strongest protest to date against the republic's old-style communist leadership.

Protesters crowded along Kirova Street in downtown Kiev, waving thousands of blue-and-yellow Ukrainian flags as they chanted for Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitaly Massol and President Leonid Kravchuk to resign.

Demonstrators also shouted slogans like "Ukraine freedom" and "Down with the treaty of union" as government leaders watched from parliament windows.

It was first time Ukrainain nationalists staged a protest of such proportions against the leadership of the Soviet Union's second-largest republic, controlled by a local communist party dominated by old-style conservatives.

Nationalist movements in the republic of 51 million also called a one-day general strike. But initial reports from the Kiev strike committee showed the stoppage drew scant support. The strike was not observed in the Donbass coalfields or the industrial centres of Kharkov and Dniepopetrovsk.

A two-hour general strike was held in Lvov, with cooperation from local authorities, according to the nationalist mayor of Kiev, Ivan Kotyk.

The Kiev demonstration, held just outside the parliament, disrupted the opening of the Autumn session by heightening tension between the nationalist minority and conservative majority and causing the session to be suspended until mid-afternoon.

Shortly after debate opened in the 450-seat body, a nationalist deputy, Sergei Konev, read out a seven-point statement from the Association of Local Soviets of the Ukraine demanding the republic refuse to sign the new Treaty of Union, due to govern the Soviet Federation by the end of the year. The statement, backed by the main Ukrainian nationalist movement Rukh and the more radical Inter-party Association of the Ukraine, also called for Ukrainian conscripts to do their national military service inside the republic.

It also demanded the local government meet the demands of discontented coal miners in the Donbass and introduce a free-market economy in the republic immediately.

The nationalist statement also called for the closure of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, site of the world's worst nuclear accident in 1986, an end to communist party influence in the Army, and nationalisation of party assets.

However the 239-member conservative majority interrupted Mr. Konev repeatedly and 120 deputies forming the nationalist caucus known as Narodna Rada (People's Council) trooped over to the podium to ask Mr. Kravchuk, who is also parliamentary speaker, to intervene.

After a moment of confusion during which deputies almost came to blows, Mr. Kravchuk suspended the session.

Nationalist deputies asked for the demonstrators, who were kept away from the building's entrance, to be allowed to rally in the huge esplanade outside, which was surrounded by a cordon of unarmed police. But the republic's collective leadership refused.

Some 30,000 people had marched in a nationalist demonstration here Sunday.

Many of them turned out again Monday in front of the parliament, then marched through the centre of Kiev to the applause of bystanders before returning to the parliament building to chant for the prime minister and president's resignation.

Most of the protesters had dispersed by early afternoon, although a couple of thousand remained there waiting for the session to resume.

Until now, nationalist activity in the republic had been confined to the western Ukraine where church activists have been pushing for recognition of the Uniate Church, whose rite is Orthodox but which claims to be loyal to the Vatican.

Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Chairman Leaves Post

LD2809172990 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1649 GMT 28 Sep 90

[By Ukrinform-TASS correspondent Stanislav Volnyanskiy]

[Text] Kiev, 28 Sep (TASS)—Leonid Kravchuk, chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet, submitted a request to be released from his duties as second secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee. The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee plenum which took place today granted his request.

Kravchuk gave the reasons for his move as wanting to concentrate fully on state work.

Grigoriy Kharchenko, who worked as first secretary of the Zaporozhye Oblast party committee and chairman of the oblast soviet of people's deputies, has been elected second secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

Only Two Deputies Elected in Belorussian Election

LD0110132690 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1200 GMT 1 Oct 90

[By TASS correspondent Vladimir Glod]

[Text] Minsk, 1 Oct (TASS)—Even after the latest, fifth stage of the elections, which were held yesterday, it has not proved possible to fill all the vacant seats in Belorussia's Parliament. Deputies were only elected in two of the 17 constituencies. In Brest the seat was won by Yevgeniy Parfenyuk, a priest, and in Gomel the seat went to Aleksey Kantsevich, a lathe operator. In the remaining constituencies either none of the candidates obtained the required number of votes, or less than half the electorate showed up at the polling stations.

Unlike the elections of USSR people's deputies, where a simple majority is sufficient in a repeat vote, in Belorussia no matter how many rounds of voting there may be, an absolute majority is required; hence the unusual shortage of deputies.

"The desire to determine the deputies according to an absolute majority is, as practice shows, not justified," Vladimir Novik, people's deputy of Belorussia, claims. "The voters' inactivity increases with each round. This is why it is so hard to obtain the required number of votes. It would seem that the solution lies in repealing this article of the law. In that case, however, former candidate deputies who gained, for example 49 percent of the votes, but who under the Law on Elections do not have the right to stand again, lose out."

The urgent situation is made worse by the fact that three people's deputies in the Belorussian Parliament have already resigned after becoming members of the republic's government. They are forbidden by law to remain deputies in this case. As a result, there are 19 vacancies in the Belorussian Parliament at the present time. Taking into account that there are around 20,000 voters in each constituency, that leaves approximately 400,000 citizens who to date are without authorized representatives in the republic's supreme body of state power.

Caucasus

Parliamentary, Local Elections Held in Azerbaijan

1,198 Candidates Run

LD3009132190 Moscow TASS in English 1110 GMT 30 Sep 90

[By AZERINFORM-TASS correspondent Natan Barskiy]

[Text] Baku September 30 TASS—Parliamentary elections and elections to local government authorities are held today in Azerbaijan, a Soviet Transcaucasian republic. The situation continues to be complicated there because of a two-year-long conflict, which is the result of Armenia's claim to the Nagorno-Karabakh region, integrated in Azerbaijan. However, Azerbaijanis going to the polls are rather optimistic about the future. Their hope for changes for the better is based on the ability to choose between many candidates, the first such opportunity they have ever had.

There are 1,198 candidates to 350 seats representing 45 public organisations, including the Popular Front, the Ecological alliance, the Social Democratic group, the Aksakal's council and so on.

And still, the aggravation of the situation and a curfew in Baku prompted corresponding measures on the part of Baku military commandant Valeriy Buniyatov. He restricted the entry to the republican capital on the eve and during the elections, until October 2.

Buniyatov explained that this measure, which is not to be applied to those on a business trip to Baku and those who come for a funeral or a family holiday, is aimed at preventing a possible violation of public order and any incidents, because instigating actions and the attempts of unauthorised activities, violating the state of emergency regime, took place during the electoral campaign.

Election Candidates Profiled

LD2809184490 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Elections to the Azerbaijan parliament and local soviets of people's deputies are to be held in the republic on 30 September. Our correspondent Islam Kuliyev reports:

[Kuliyev] We cannot remember the last time the republic had such elections. There are perhaps two aspects to their uniqueness: the first is the unprecedented display of democracy in the nomination of candidates, and the second is that in many places the election campaign is being mounted under a state of emergency. One might think the situation somewhat paradoxical and that one factor would cancel out the other, but the figures show that 1,185 candidates are today contesting the 350 mandates to the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet. In other words, there are more than three candidates per seat. This is quite unprecedented in our history, and if you consider the composition of the candidates, among whom literally all strata of society and all socio-political movements are represented, then it becomes apparent that this is indeed the case. True we have not escaped attempts to break the law on elections. There have been instances of refusal to register certain candidates, but all these disputes have been sorted out.

One other characteristic feature of the election campaign in Azerbaijan: by contrast with many previous elections,

the electorate has a great opportunity to get to know the candidates. Literally the whole city is plastered with posters and leaflets profiling the candidate deputies.

For a description of the candidate people's deputies here is (Dzhakhangir Nadzhafov), deputy head of the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet department dealing with the work of the soviets:

[(Nadzhafov)] More than 90 percent of the candidates have a higher education; 8.1 percent of all those registered are women; of all the candidate deputies, only 10 percent have been deputies in previous Azerbaijan Supreme Soviets. We are faced with the fact that the republic's parliament will be composed of completely new people. It is worth noting that of the 1,180 [as heard] candidate deputies, 921 are members or candidate members of the CPSU. There are eight nationalities represented in the list of those registered. I believe that the elections here in our republic will differ positively from previous years' elections to the Supreme Soviet. And what is above all gratifying is that all, I repeat all organizations, labor collectives, assemblies of electors according to residence and of servicemen according to military unit all without exception have equal rights, and of course equal opportunities.

[Kuliyev] And yet, in the run-up to the elections the situation in Azerbaijan is far from simple. There has been the occasional attempt to destabilize and exacerbate the situation. That is the explanation given by Baku's military commandant for his order restricting entry into the republican capital for citizens from other towns.

Kafarova Discusses Elections

LD2809200790 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0947 GMT 28 Sep 90

[By AZERINFORM-TASS correspondent Natan Barskiy]

[Text] Baku, 28 Sep—Elmira Kafarova, chairman of the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet, has called for an end to endless discussions as well as the fanning of civil strife and division in society on the eve of the elections that are to take place on 30 September.

In an interview with repuiblican journalists she noted that the approaching elections have been complicated by the unending inter-ethnic conflict in the Transcaucasus.

"Although the general climate in the republic is normal by comparison with other areas of the country," she said, "there is no growth in the crime rate unlike in other Soviet republics; people have lost interest in work; and the production of cotton, grain, and grapes is falling steadily which is having a negative effect on people's material provisions."

The chairman of the republican Supreme Soviet rejected rumors to the effect that the present election campaign is purportedly taking place in an undemocratic atmosphere. She stressed that the facts attest otherwise: for the first time 45 public organizations have proposed candidates, among them along with the Communists are representatives of the Council of Elders [Soviet Aksakalov], the Union of the Democratic Intelligentsia [Soyuz demokraticheskoy intelligentsii], the Committee for People's Aid to Karabakh [Komitet narodnoy pomoshchi Karabakhu], the Azerbaijani People's Front, and the Social Democratic Group.

There are constituencies, the chairman of the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet said, in which between eight to 21 candidates have been proposed, and as a result 1,198 people are contesting the 350 seats in the republican parliament. Among them this time there are few workers, kolkhoz [collective farm] workers, or young people. Or indeed women of whom there are 91 in all, amounting to a mere 7.6 percent, Elmira Kafarova noted regretfully, believing that women who have long been allocated the special role of preservers of peace in the east should occupy considerably more seats in parliament.

In conclusion Elmira Kafarova expressed confidence that in the republic, which was the first in the USSR to adopt a law on sovereignty, the new parliament will promote the political and economic independence of Azerbaijan.

Popular Front Leader Murdered

NC3009132090 Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 30 Sep 90 p 4

[Report by Cenk Baslamis: "A Political Murder in Azerbaijan"]

[Text] Moscow—Tension in the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] has been heightened by the tragic murder of Arif Abdullayev, one of the leaders of the Popular Front of Azerbaijan, right before today's elections.

According to information MILLIYET has received from reliable sources in Baku, Arif Abdullayev, who was the chief of the Popular Front's Organization Department and the person responsible for carrying out preparations for the elections, was discovered dead in his house in Baku at 0200 two nights ago. Abdullayev was stabbed 12 times and then beheaded by unknown individuals. The sources contacted by MILLIYET claimed that because a curfew came into effect at the time Abdullayev was killed the military forces or the KGB had to be responsible for the crime.

The Popular Front's appeal to the commandant's headquarters in Baku to be given Abdullayev's remains was rejected until late yesterday. The front has decided to bury Abdullayev in the martyrs' cemetery.

The murder of one of the most prominent members of the Popular Front has strained the atmosphere in the Azerbaijan SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] considerably.

Many people are reported to be waiting at the airports, train stations, and bus terminals to travel to Baku.

Meanwhile, a number of sources have said that serious incidents may be provoked and that the elections may be postponed.

Abulfez Aliyev, leader of the Popular Front of Azerbaijan, has decided at the last minute not to take part in the elections. Nor is Ayaz Mutalibov, president of the Azerbaijan SSR, running as a candidate deputy. No information has been given as to why President Ayaz Mutalibov is not contesting the elections.

Other Regions

The strained atmosphere in Baku has spread to the other parts of Azerbaijan SSR. The failure of the Nakhichevan parliament to allow observers to follow the elections has caused the people to react. The Popular Front in Nakhichevan has decided to station its own observers at the polls.

A large demonstration was organized in Sumgait two days ago. The demonstration, numbering 20,000 people, protested the presence of the Red Army units in Azerbaijan SSR.

Access for Observers Curtailed

PM0110131390 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 26 Sep 90 p 2

[Report by A. Mursaliyev: "'Front' Calls for Observers While the Commandant Closes the City"]

[Text] Baku—It is with a sense of deep regret that I inform residents of other cities that everyone who has planned to travel to Baku in the next few days should go and get a refund on his ticket before it is too late. The city will be closed to everyone from other cities until 2 October. You cannot write anything, an election is going on, and sorry but there is a state of emergency.

No, barricades are not being erected nor are shots to be heard. The streets are chock-full of highway patrolmen who are a familiar sign: If they are on the streets, it means that there is not nor will there be any disorder. True, the army commandant reports from time to time that attempts are planned to frustrate the elections, picket the polling stations, and blockade the buildings of republic party and state institutions. However, the People's Front rejects these reports and urges its supporters "not to succumb to the authorities' provocations."

The closer the elections approach, the more relevant the state of emergency becomes. Armored personnel carriers have again appeared on Lenin Square in the city center. The square itself is empty, if you discount Lenin of course. The final election week is under way. A contest has basically developed between local party bosses and the "Democratic Azerbaijan" bloc, which includes the Azerbaijan People's Front and opposition political parties. Out of all the politicians in Azerbaijan, only two are not taking part in the election: Ayaz Mutalibov, president of the republic, and Abulfaz Aliyev, chairman of the Azerbaijan People's Front.

"We consider these elections undemocratic," said Isa Gambarov, a Front leader. "But we are taking part in them, as we are sure that the situation will change tomorrow and the atmosphere will become more democratic."

The Democratic Bloc has appealed to all the democratic movements of the country and soviets at every level in many republics to send observers to the elections. The Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet has regarded this as a "violation of the republic's sovereignty." Nevertheless the first observers, who will include RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] people's deputies, should soon be arriving. But Colonel Valeriy Buniyatov, the city commandant, has stated: "I will not let them off the aircraft. They will remain in the plane until they grow beards. There is nothing for them to do here. The Azerbaijan people do not need advisors." Incidentally the commandant himself is also standing for the republic's parliament—for Baku, of course.

So you will have to delay your visit to Baku a little, if of course you do not want to grow a beard.

Observers Violate 'Sovereignty'

LD2909150690 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] As has already been reported, elections begin tomorrow in Azerbaijan and Georgia. And although they are different in character—in Azerbaijan there will be elections to the Supreme Soviet and local authorities, while in Georgia they will be to the so-called National Congress which is not an official authority—both measures are of importance for the fate of the republics.

In Azerbaijan, the sociopolitical situation has been exacerbated—and not just because of the state of emergency introduced after the January events in Baku, but also by the interethnic conflict with Armenia. The tension is demonstrated in particular by the following fact: the Baku military commander, speaking on local television, demanded the departure from the city for the period of the elections of all who are not citizens of the Republic. In response to the appeal from the Democratic Azerbaijan bloc of opposition parties to all the country's democratic organizations to send their observers to the elections, the commander replied that he would not let them out of their aircraft as the Azerbaijani people did not need advisers. There is a quotation for you.

The present composition of the republican Supreme Soviet regards the arrival of observers as a violation of sovereignty.

As is known, Gaydar Aliyev, former member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, is standing for one of the seats in the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet. In 1987 he retired on a pension for health reasons but has now

actively conducted his election campaign. In the opinion of political observers, Aliyev has almost certainly ensured himself a deputy's seat.

Almost all sociopolitical organizations and parties of Georgia, including the democratic faction of the Communist Party, will be taking part in tomorrow's elections to the Republic's National Congress. This measure is being conducted by the opposition. It does not enjoy the support of the authorities. In the opinion of the organizers, the Georgian National Congress should serve to consolidate the national-liberation movement and a means of checking on the actions of the official state bodies—in particular the republic's Supreme Soviet. The elections to it are to be held on 28 October.

'Tense' Situation Noted

NC3009135390 Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 30 Sep 90 p 4

[Text] Baku—A total of 1,198 candidate deputies will run in the elections for the Azerbaijan parliament and local government organs today. The representatives of 45 organizations will be running for 350 seats in the elections.

The Democratic Alok—which has been established by the Social Democrats, the Greens, and other groups—is contesting the elections with 231 members; the Popular Front of Azerbaijan with 195; the Communist party with 131; the Azerbaijan Council of Ministers with 110; the Young Communists Organization [Leninist Communist Youth League] with 56; and the KGB, militia units, and the republic's procuracy with 60 members. The remaining candidate deputies will represent various other popular organizations.

Interesting figures are running in the elections though Ebulfez Aliyev, leader of the Popular Front of Azerbaijan, has decided not to run. One of the prominent individuals is Geydar Aliyev, former member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee.

Meanwhile, INTERFAX has reported that the situation was tense during the election campaign in the republic and that candidate deputies tore up each other's posters. INTERFAX also claimed that a number of the candidate deputies have bribed the voters and forced them to swear on the Koran that they will vote to support them.

40 Percent Voter Turnout

LD3009190790 Moscow TASS in English 1834 GMT 30 Sep 90

[By AZERINFORM-TASS correspondents Gekchekhanum Tagieva and Aflatun Amashov]

[Excerpts] Baku September 30 TASS —The Central Election Commission announced that over 40 percent of 3,800,000 Azerbaijani voters went to the polls by midday this Sunday. [passage omitted]

According to the Central Electoral Commission, 1,198 candidates contested 350 seats. Together with the Azerbaijani Communist Party, over 40 political and public organisations and movements participated in the electoral campaign.

The elections were monitored by public observers from work collectives and authorised representatives of candidates running for parliament.

Two Explosive Devices Defused in Stepanakert

PM2809102590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Sep 90 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Explosive Devices Defused"]

[Text] Stepanakert—A further two explosive devices have been defused in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast television and radio center building.

As is known, on the night of 14-15 September a powerful explosion occurred here causing damage amounting to several hundred thousand rubles. During the investigation it was established that up to 20kg of explosives had been planted in the basement. The people who perpetrated this act of sabotage have not yet been found.

And now a new alarming "find." The USSR Internal Affairs Ministry operational investigation group, the workers of the Stepanakert law enforcement organs, and KGB staffers investigating the crime must determine whether these two explosive devices were planted before the 15 September explosion or whether it is a new act of sabotage.

The investigation is continuing.

Ter-Petrosyan Urges End to Moscow Hunger Strike

NC2809124090 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Levon Ter-Petrosyan, chairman of the Armenian Supreme Soviet who is in Moscow on his way to the U.S., visited today USSR People's Deputies Zori Balayan, Sos Sargisyan, Vachakan Grigoryan, and the Chairman of the Executive Committee of Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO] party committee Semyon Babayan who are on a hunger strike in Moscow Hotel.

The chairman of the republic's Supreme Soviet handed the hunger strikers a decision of the Armenian Supreme Soviet Presidium which repeated the Armenian Supreme Soviet's request of a few days ago to end the hunger strike and embark on other more effective methods of political struggle.

Levon Ter-Petrosyan said that in his view the hunger strike achieved its two main goals: One had the impression that the Soviet leadership and the Soviet public opinion had apparently relegated the Artsakh [NKAO] problem to oblivion. Thanks to the hunger strike the attention was refocused on that problem and this is in itself an important political achievement. Second and no

less important is that because of the hunger strike and the concomitant policy of the new Armenian leadership—a policy the essence of which is the transition from the brink of confrontation to political appeasements and agreements—the tension in Artsakh might subside.

The increasing pressure applied jointly by the Azerbaijani leadership, Soviet Army, and USSR internal troops in Artsakh has lately started to lessen. This too is one of the results of the hunger strike. That is, in every possible way the hunger strike has achieved its goal and I think that today our entire people could request the hunger strikers to end this extreme form of political struggle.

Armenia's Ter-Petrosyan To Visit U.S.

NC2809115490 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] A reception was given at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow on 26 September in honor of Levon Ter-Petrosyan, chairman of the Armenian Republic's Supreme Soviet. The embassy consular (?Michael Jack), who was acting for a vacationing Mr. Matlock, expressed his good wishes for Levon Ter-Petrosyan's visit to the United States and hoped that the visit will be significant in developing Armenia's foreign political, economic, and other ties.

Levon Ter-Petrosyan noted that the visit recognizes the need to establish the foundations for direct Armenian-American relations as well as the need to mobilize the Armenian community in the U.S. and raise its relations with mother Armenia to a qualitatively new level.

The meeting was held in a sincere and [word indistinct] atmosphere.

Shenin Calls for New Armenian Reconstruction

LD2909021890 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Interview with Oleg Semenovich Shenin, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member, by correspondent Koryun Khumaryan, following Shenin's visit to the Armenian "earthquake zone" on 28 September; in Leninakan—recorded]

[Text] [Khumaryan] Oleg Semenovich, you have been to Spitak, and you are in Leninakan. You have met the population, workers, visited construction sites, and have seen for yourself how slowly the economy of the zone destroyed by the earthquake is being restored.

[Shenin] I think that one should consider these questions once more at the level of the Union government since the decision which was adopted on the earthquake zone this year is expiring. We should have adopted another decision.

What is more, take Leninakan for example, where quite important preparatory work has already been carried out. It is now possible to organize work on a very broad scale. To ensure this, all those sent here must again reconsider all their positions and ensure deliveries of appropriate resources [word indistinct] including [word indistinct]. Admittedly, though, a great deal of aid is being rendered by the public since, on average over 70 percent of the local population is taking part in the restoration work. If we are convinced that all is to be normal here as far as the material resources are concerned, it will then be possible to assist the area with more people.

In Spitak I think the situation is very complex because, effectively, comrades from Uzbekistan and Estonia do not work on the construction site. And those who are still paying there to work have found themselves without material resources. Things are not moving there in general. Yet winter is ahead and the population is facing a very problematic future. I think that all this merits serious consideration at the level of the Union government.

[Khumaryan] There was much discussion today at the production enterprise meeting on the permanent blockade to which the republic and corrective organizations are subjected.

[Shenin] Well, at least the construction workers believe that they have lost many millions through interruptions in the delivery of freight because the railway line has been blockaded. Now the situation has been complicated very much by a gas shortage. There are difficulties with heating. Yet all those who live here and those who work, they are all human. Therefore we must get down to solidly tackling this issue because things cannot go on this way any longer.

Armenian KGB Requests Depoliticization Act

PM2809140990 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Sep 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by Sergey Bablumyan: "Armenian KGB Depoliticized"]

[Text] Yerevan—The Armenian KGB has asked the republic's Supreme Soviet to accelerate the adoption of a legislative act on the depoliticization of the law enforcement organs.

This decision was taken by the overwhelming majority of KGB Communists who discussed this question at an open party meeting. The resolution adopted states in particular that the meeting understands depoliticization as "the banning of Armenian KGB staffers' membership of and participation in any political parties and organizations for the duration of their work and also banning the operation of these structures within the system of the republic's state security organs."

Elections to Georgia's 'National Congress' Begin

LD3009073290 Moscow TASS in English 0712 GMT 30 Sep 90

[By GRUZINFORM-TASS corresondent Zurab Grdzelishvili]

[Text] Tbilisi September 30 TASS—Voters from across Georgia flocked to polling stations today to choose between six political parties and blocs that are running for Georgia's National Congress.

The congress is designed as a political institution that will express the will of the people and promote the republic's independence.

Running for the congress are the National-Democratic Party in alliance with the Democratic Party, the National Independent-National Union alliance, the democratic fraction of the Georgian Communist Party, Georgia's Civil League and the Democratic Georgia-Georgian People's Party alliance.

These parties also plan to field their candidates for October 28 parliamentary elections.

All those permanently residing in Georgia, (approximately 4 million people) can take part in elections to the congress, Academician Merab Aleksidze, chairman of the Central Electoral Commission, told TASS.

In non-Georgian communities residents are providing with ballots in native languages, he said.

Contrary to the forthcoming parliamentary elections, today's ballot is not sponsored by authorities, he said.

More than 50 per cent of Georgia's residents were expected to take part in the election.

Central Asia

Semipalatinsk Resolves To Ban Nuclear Testing

LD0110122690 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1035 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Semipalatinsk, 1 Oct (TASS)—A session of the oblast Soviet of People's Deputies has adopted a resolution to ban underground nuclear tests at the Semipalatinsk test site. The decision has been dictated by alarm about the health of the people and the future of the area along the Irtysh in Semipalatinsk.

For more than 40 years hundreds of atomic explosions, including some in the open air, have been carried out in Kazakhstan. More than 500,000 people have been exposed to some extent or other to the destructive influence of radiation.

Kazakh President Views Ust-Kamenogorsk 'Disaster'

LD2809142490 Moscow TASS in English 1346 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Alma-Ata September 28 TASS—President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev has sent a telegram to Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov asking him to declare the east Kazakhstan region an ecological disaster area.

This request is due to the accident that occurred at the Ulbinskiy Metallurgical Plant on September 12. Extremely harmful beryllium compounds were released, affecting many inhabitants in the town of Ust-Kamenogorsk.

The Kazakh public and the town's population demand urgent measures and compensation for their damaged health. Responding to the will of their electors, the regional and town councils have already decided to declare the east Kazakhstan region an ecological disaster zone.

Supporting these demands, the president of Kazakhstan asked the federal prime minister to urgently dispatch experts to Ust-Kamenogorsk in order to examine the situation on the spot and to decide whether the Ulbinskiy Metallurgical Plant should be shut down or not. This enterprise is among the country's major suppliers of fuel for nuclear power plants. Unfortunately, it is located in a densely populated area of Ust-Kamenogorsk.

The telegram calls for a commission to carry out an independent ecological investigation with the participation of foreign experts.

Tremors Reported in East Kazakhstan

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[By KAZTAG-TASS correspondent S. Rybakov]

[Text] Ust-Kamenogorsk, 28 Sep—At 0112 GMT Moscow time last night [2112 GMT on 27 September], people living in the East Kazakhstan and Semipalatinsk Oblasts experienced earth tremors for the third time this year. The tremors' epicenter, according to the "Alma Ata" central seismic station, lay in the vicinity of Lake Zaysan. The force of the earthquake reached six points (on the 12-point scale), three to four in Ust-Kamenogorsk, and two points in Semipalatinsk.

According to preliminary information, the only houses to suffer were those that had been previously damaged by seismic activity from which people had been evacuated.